



## OREGON HOUSE REPUBLICAN OFFICE

### For Immediate Release

Wednesday, June 12, 2019  
Contact: Greg Stiles, 503.986.1009  
[greg.stiles@oregonlegislature.gov](mailto:greg.stiles@oregonlegislature.gov)

### **Democrats ram Cap-and-Trade legislation through Ways and Means**

*Common sense Republican amendments are swept aside in party-line vote*

SALEM, Oregon – Today, every Democrat on the Joint Ways and Means Committee voted to advance the job-killing legislation known as “Cap and Trade,” House Bill 2020.

Democrats rejected common sense amendments that would’ve allowed Oregon to reduce its carbon emissions at a price workers and their families could afford. Now, the supermajority is poised to unleash the most onerous and debilitating scheme ever passed by an Oregon Legislative Assembly.

“At every turn, from pre-session negotiations and public hearings to amendments that would have benefited working Oregonians, the Democrat Leadership has made it clear their agenda is more important than the well-being of thousands of workers whose employment is now in jeopardy,” said House Republican Leader Carl Wilson (R-Grants Pass).

What Democrats did today is unconscionable, pulling one of the most respected legislators in the Capitol from Ways and Means. Betsy Johnson, a senator who understands the devastating impacts Cap and Trade will have on her community and others, was “excused” from voting because Democrats didn’t like the optics of a party member voting their conscience, and against the bill. Such a move makes a mockery of our legislative process in representing all the people of Oregon. It’s no wonder Oregonians think so little of their state government.

Already, wood products plants in St. Helens and Coos Bay have announced they’re closing. Other firms have indicated the costs of Cap and Trade would force them to cut workers or move their operations out of state. If their job is still there, workers will pay much higher prices at the fuel pump and higher prices at the store.

“The Democrats in today’s Ways and Means meeting voted for a bill that will devastate workers and communities across Oregon. Democrats own this,” Wilson said.

###