



OREGON HOUSE REPUBLICAN OFFICE

For Immediate Release

Friday, April 19, 2019

Contact: Greg Stiles, 503.986.1009

greg.stiles@oregonlegislature.gov

Feeble tax credit fix won't be of much help to Oregon's working families

A token tax credit won't offset Cap and Trade bill's devastating effects

SALEM, Oregon. – *“So, we know your family budget will be slammed by the cap and trade bill. Please accept this opportunity to qualify for tax credits ... With our best wishes, your Democrat super-majority.”*

This is how the preamble to HB 3425 should read.

HB 3425 is a miserable effort to offset the plundering of the working class whose jobs may not even exist once the full impact of cap and trade kick in. An extra few bucks won't make up for the loss of employment or the higher cost of living from the grocery store to heating and cooling their homes.

There is no guarantee that workers will see the “benefits” of tax credits from a Climate Action Reimbursement Fund generated by the sale of allowances. Even the yet-to-be-determined byzantine and convoluted methodology for determining eligibility for a credit has raised endless questions.

If Democrats seek equity, they aren't finding it by taxing Oregonians an additional 16 cents per gallon of gas in just the first year of the Democrat's scheme. How is it equitable for a family that drives 80 miles to the school bus stop? How is it equitable for the family that is barely making ends meet that can't afford to purchase a more fuel-efficient vehicle because of soaring grocery and utility costs? Many Oregonians are already forced to choose between gas and putting food on the table.

The 10-cent per gallon gas tax increase approved in 2017 has been largely mitigated by lower oil prices, but the jolt to the family budget won't be so easily masked by HB 2020.

###