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[CONTACT NAME]

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**[NAME] Chamber of Commerce Announces Opposition to Proposed Cap and Trade Legislation**

*Launches digital ad and website to rally business for legislative session*

**[CITY], Ore. (January XX, 2018)** – The [NAME] Chamber of Commerce announced its opposition to HB 4001, a proposal in the Oregon State Legislature to adopt California’s carbon cap and trade program, which would tax carbon emissions and drive up the cost of energy for families, farmers and employers across the state. The proposal is expected to be debated during February’s legislative session.

“When it comes to attracting and growing businesses in Oregon, we already have our challenges,” said [NAME, TITLE AND ORGANIZATION]. “Placing a tax on the use of fuel, natural gas and electricity will drive investment into neighboring, lower-cost states. Particularly in rural Oregon, where there are already fewer job opportunities and people drive longer distances, a new energy tax will have a devastating effect.”

If the bill were to become law, it is estimated that the price of gasoline will immediately increase by $.16 per gallon and households will face an increase of $50 to $125 per month in their cost of living. The bill authorizes bureaucrats to increase the tax on gasoline, electricity and natural gas, taking the ultimate impact out of the hands of elected officials.

HB 4001 will also cost thousands of jobs over time. Since enactment of its carbon policy, California has experienced half the manufacturing job growth as the U.S. average as investment has shifted to other states. In 2013, the year their cap and trade system was adopted, California had 46 manufacturing plants locate or expand there; Texas had 253.

Oregon’s economy is already one of the cleanest in the nation, accounting for only .7 percent of the nation’s carbon emissions and .1 percent of global carbon emissions. Between 2000 and 2015, Oregon’s carbon emissions *declined* by 13 percent while the economy grew by 85 percent and population grew by 18 percent.

Oregon’s legislative session begins on February 5th and will conclude by March 11th. The proposed cap and trade legislation is expected to be heard in a joint committee meeting on February 7th.

*About the [NAME OF CHAMBER]*

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