

Submitter: John Weigant
On Behalf Of: Elders for Climate Action--Oregon Chapter
Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment
Measure: HB3166

I support HB 3166. Political laws should reflect natural laws. The laws of physics, of conservation of mass, energy, and momentum, require this law. The first two laws limit growth, because everything is made of mass and energy. They can change form, but not amount, limiting growth to the mass and energy available on earth. The speed of light adds more limits, binding us to earth. (A much-faster-than-light space drive is needed for star travel.)

The current momentum of society (its mass times velocity) aims most of humanity for destruction, hurtling toward planetary limits. Humanity's behavior is just the sum of individual behavior. This bill makes it easier for individuals to change their behavior, to become more sustainable. It takes time to learn new behavior, to avoid the trauma our present behavior leads us to. This bill will accelerate learning, especially for early adopters, building cultural momentum toward an absolutely necessary future.

It is important to understand the fundamentals of our future. Conserved mass, energy, and momentum, we must add information limit the QUANTITY of life, which has limits. Information determines the QUALITY of life. Since information has no known limit, better information can keep making life better, our essential goal. This bill makes it easier to learn the stuff that will make better futures, and the present.

Certain people will oppose it who profit from traditional strategies. Sustainable information is precisely the kind of information that grows exponentially. This is a good bill, short and sweet.

I'm John Weigant, a former physics teacher, urban planner, and retired from a career specializing in information. I'm now a climate activist and futurist. The future is electric, because electricity can be generated from various forms of solar energy: wind, rain, photovoltaic, and other natural forces. Its abundance is many times what humanity needs. The cost is in acquiring it, but once that infrastructure is built, it's nearly free, and only needs distribution. Fossil energy is more expensive to acquire, distribute, AND mitigate its natural pollution.