

House Committee on Rules
900 Court St. NE, Rm. 64
Salem, OR 97301

May 19, 2015

Dear Chair and Members of the House Committee on Rules:

On behalf of the Keep It In The Ground Coalition, made up of 350.org chapters and partner organizations throughout Oregon, we are writing in strong support of House Bill 3470 (known as Climate Stability and Justice Act of Oregon). 350.org and allies are building a global climate movement. That movement is rising from the bottom up all over the world, and is uniting to create the solutions that will ensure a better future for all. (The number 350 means climate safety: to preserve a livable planet, scientists tell us we must reduce the amount of CO₂ in the atmosphere from its current level of 400 parts per million to below 350 ppm.)

The consensus of best science tells us that we must be at least 15% below 1990 greenhouse gas levels by 2020, and at least 75% below by 2050. In 2013, Oregon's Legislature passed a non-binding policy goal to meet these targets. But current policy is inadequate to the task and Oregon is not on target to meet the goals. If passed and implemented, HB 3470 would effectively limit greenhouse gas emissions in Oregon.

We believe that HB 3470 is the most feasible, legal and effective policy option to limit greenhouse gas emission for Oregon at this time:

- 1) It very specifically and clearly mandates reductions in greenhouse gas emissions by 2020 through 2050.
- 2) It would set those greenhouse gas emissions limits based on the best available science.
- 3) The law sets five year truth checks mandating further reductions if needed.
- 4) California adopted a similar approach (AB32) in 2006, designed to be joined by other jurisdictions, so Oregon can join an effort with a jurisdiction with a much larger economy, so as to reinforce collective action.
- 5) Oregon opinion polls show the public is supportive of a carbon cap. California voted support for their law by a 24% margin.

We urge you to vote in support of HB 3470

350.org PDX
350.org Salem
350.org Corvallis
350.org Eugene
350.org Deschutes
Southern Oregon Climate Action Now
Rogue Climate
Douglas County Global Warming Coalition
Columbia Gorge Climate Action Network