



**Electric Vehicle Charging Association**  
INNOVATION FOR CLEAN MOBILITY



**TechNet**

**NetChoice**

**ACT** | The App Association

February 1, 2016

Hon. Jessica Vega Pederson  
Chair, Committee on Energy and Environment  
Oregon House of Representatives  
900 Court Street, NE  
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Chairwoman Vega Pederson:

We write to support the 'Oregon Clean Electricity and Coal' proposal (HB 4036) **with the enclosed amendments**. It is important that legislation related to electric vehicle charging infrastructure leverages the innovation and investment already occurring in Oregon to achieve a sustainable, low-carbon transportation sector.

If the electric vehicle market is to produce environmental and economic dividends for the state, it will require a policy framework that enables consumer choice, competition, innovation, and private investment - especially in the high-growth area of electric vehicle charging infrastructure.

Utility investment as proposed in HB 4036 can benefit ratepayers and industry if it enables consumer choice and private investment. Unfortunately, it can also provide utilities with a stifling monopoly power over electric vehicle charging stations while forcing ratepayers to foot the bill.

The currently outlined program might provide short-term stimulus for deployment, but it will create an environment that slows long-term growth and viability for building out innovative electric vehicle charging networks. It will keep investors from entering the market and undermine Oregon's job creation from electric vehicles.

Three simple amendments will guide utility investment more effectively.

1. Strengthen protections for customer choice of service and equipment;
2. Ensure a Public Utility Commission process for reviewing the role of utilities that builds on past record and allows for public comment and debate; and

3. Direct utility investments to benefit all ratepayers, including low income.

Oregon is already a leader in electric vehicle sales with Oregonians twice as likely as the average American to purchase an EV. Oregon deserves to have the best charging infrastructure in the world. That is best accomplished by encouraging competitive services based on price and quality of service – and avoiding monopoly control.

Sincerely,



Damon Conklin, EVCA



Megan Schrader, TechNet



Steve DelBianco, NetChoice



Morgan Reed, ACT

cc: Members of the Committee  
Beth Patrino, Committee Administrator