

Barbara Smith Warner

From the desk of Rep. Barbara Smith Warner

Labor Support for HB 4036

We are union leaders who represent over 50,000 Oregon workers and their families across a broad spectrum of industries. Another thing we have in common is our shared commitment to a clean, healthy environment powered by renewable resources that encourage local investment in our economy and infrastructure.

To this end, we support HB 4036, the legislative proposal to remove coal from our electricity grid and double the sources of renewable energy in Oregon by 2040. Climate change threatens the workers we represent, the families they support, and the Oregonians they serve at work. Our labor unions have a strong tradition of upholding environmental standards and supporting policies that help working people and all Oregonians. We recognize the complexity of this issue, and we believe that this plan to transition away from coal and toward clean, renewable energy is the best path for Oregon rate payers, our expanding green economy, public health, and the quality of life we enjoy as Oregonians living and working in this nature-rich region of the Pacific Northwest.

We are proud to join the broad coalition that supports HB 4036, including labor unions, environmental advocates, major utilities, consumer advocates, businesses, and community groups; and we strongly urge your support in passing this bill, known as the Oregon Clean Electricity and Clean Power Plan. We speak on behalf of our members, as well as the overwhelming majority of Oregonians, in stating that we want a coal-free electricity grid by 2035.

HB 4036 is an important step toward a sustainable economy that creates jobs, benefits workers across industry sectors and preserves Oregon's reputation as a national leader in creating opportunity while supporting its working families.

Sincerely

Oregon AFSCME Council 75
Oregon Nurses Association
United Food and Commercial Workers Local 555
Oregon Federation of Nurses and Health Professionals

