



June 23, 2017

Honorable Representative Jennifer Williamson
House Committee on Rules
900 Court Street, NE H-280
Salem, OR 97301

RE: HB 2020 Support

The City of Eugene is committed to addressing global climate change and strongly support the passage and implementation of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction legislation in Oregon. HB 2020 will modernize the Department of Energy's mission and integrate Climate planning across state agencies in a coordinated manner, a step that is a critical necessity to accomplish our local, state, and international climate commitments.

The 2017 Oregon Global Warming Commission Report to the Legislature indicates that Oregon's GHG reduction goals will not be met by existing and planned actions, our state is warming with notable consequences, and the state's current policy efforts are insufficient to address the challenges ahead.

Local governments and communities, while leading the way, cannot address this issue without state-wide action. Eugene has taken great strides, starting in 2010 with the development of our Climate and Energy Action Plan, followed by the adoption of the Climate Recovery Ordinance (CRO) in 2014 to become the first city in the country to put our GHG reduction goals into law, and most recently an update to the CRO in 2016 that establishes a target reduction of 7.6% annually from 2010 GHG emission levels.

Our community recognizes the need to take immediate action in reducing greenhouse gas emissions, with over 75% of Eugene residents agreeing that stronger regulations of GHG emissions are needed. Supportive state policy provides the essential and complimentary platform for local action. It is time for the Oregon Legislature to take comprehensive, economy wide action on addressing our climate challenges.

On behalf of our community and for future Oregonians, thank you for your service and I urge you to pass HB2020.

Sincerely,

Mayor Lucy Vinis