

ECUMENICAL MINISTRIES *of* OREGON

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February 7, 2018

Chair Dembrow, Vice-Chair Olsen and Members of the Committee,

My name is Britt Conroy, and I am Public Policy Director at Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon. EMO is a statewide association of Christian denominations, congregations, ecumenical organizations and interfaith partners working together to improve the lives of Oregonians. We do this through community ministry programs, ecumenical and interreligious dialogue and public policy advocacy.

I speak today on behalf of the EMO board of directors in support of SB 1507, the Clean Energy Jobs bill.

The EMO board believes we are called to live out a prophetic vision that prioritizes protecting the most vulnerable communities in our society and the abundant Creation in which we have the privilege to live. Our state's approach to addressing climate change currently falls short of this vision.

People with low incomes, our children, communities of color and rural communities suffer the most from climate pollution. We pay with missed work days and medical expenses from lung disease, allergies and asthma attacks. We pay with record-breaking wildfires that destroy the forests that support local jobs and provide soulful respite, with droughts that hurt farmers and raise food prices and with acidification of the Pacific Ocean that puts at risk the economic and ecological stability of the Oregon Coast.

We recognize Oregon's proud legacy of environmental stewardship, a legacy deserving of its people and of a land of such profound beauty and natural abundance. Our fellow Oregonians and this natural beauty demand our utmost compassion and care, and our faiths implore us to reach far higher to meet this responsibility.

As proud Oregonians, we believe the Clean Energy Jobs bill embraces Oregon's unique opportunity to lead the clean energy revolution at a time when state-led environmental action is so desperately needed.

We call on the Oregon Legislature to protect the environment and our communities by passing the Clean Energy Jobs bill in 2018.

Thank you.



Clean Energy Jobs

- Faith Leader Sign-On Letter -

Dear Oregon Legislators and Governor Brown,

As faith leaders and as Oregonians, we are called to live out a prophetic vision that prioritizes protecting the most vulnerable communities in our society and the abundant Creation in which we have the privilege to live. Our state's approach to addressing climate change currently falls short of this vision, and we write to show our support for legislation that repairs our compact with each other and our natural home.

People with low incomes, our children, communities of color and rural communities suffer the most from climate pollution. We pay with missed work days and medical expenses from lung disease, allergies and asthma attacks. We pay with record-breaking wildfires that destroy the forests that support local jobs and provide soulful respite, with droughts that hurt farmers and raise food prices and with acidification of the Pacific Ocean that puts at risk the economic and ecological stability of the Oregon Coast.

We recognize Oregon's proud legacy of environmental stewardship, a legacy deserving of its people and of a land of such profound beauty and natural abundance. Our fellow Oregonians and this natural beauty demand our utmost compassion and care, and our faiths implore us to reach far higher to meet this responsibility. The Jewish and Christian traditions teach that Adam and Eve were asked "to till and to tend" the Garden of Eden (Genesis 2:15). We believe humans remain a partner in Creation and that we fulfill this mandate by a practice of "Tikkun Olam," meaning "repairing the world."

Mindful of our faith traditions and our commitment to one another, we support the Clean Energy Jobs Bill. This legislation provides Oregon an opportunity to cap and then ratchet down Oregon's climate pollution. Currently, Oregon has limits on emissions in its laws, but they are not being enforced. The Clean Energy Jobs Bill also places a price on greenhouse gas emissions, spurring climate-friendly business practices and entrepreneurship, while investing the proceeds in creating clean energy jobs and limiting pollution throughout Oregon, especially in the communities hardest hit by climate change. Such strategic investments enable us to live out our faith values, such as the holistic Islamic concept "rahmatan lil alamin," meaning blessing for the

whole world and of all creation, which necessitates that we share the world fairly with all mankind, and the call in the Bible to “pursue justice and champion the oppressed (Isaiah 1:17).”

As proud Oregonians, we believe the Clean Energy Jobs Bill embraces Oregon’s unique opportunity to lead the clean energy revolution at a time when state-led environmental action is so desperately needed. We would join our West coast partners in a powerful alliance for climate protection and economic opportunity.

We agree with Pope Francis in Laudato Si that "the climate is a common good, belonging to all and meant for all...There is need to develop policies so that, in the next few years, the emissions of carbon dioxide and other polluting gases can be drastically reduced.”

We call on the Oregon Legislature to protect our communities and Creation by passing the Clean Energy Jobs Bill in 2018.

Sincerely,

Faith Leader Signatories, as of February 7, 2018

Title	Name	Position	Place of Worship
Mr.	Wajdi Said	President	Muslim Educational Trust, Tigard
Pastor	Victoria C. Brown		First Presbyterian Church, Roseburg
Rev.	Vernon Groves		The First United Methodist Church of Portland
Rev.	Todd Bartlett		Portland United Methodist Church
Rev.	Thomas Tate		Portland United Methodist Church
Rev.	Ted Hulbert		The First United Methodist Church of Eugene
Rev.	Steven Sprecher		Lake Oswego United Methodist Church
Rev.	Steve Wolff		Nehalem Bay United Methodist Church
Rev.	Stephan Ross		Rose City Park United Methodist Church, Portland
Mr.	Stan Jewett	President	Pacific NW Unitarian Universalist Growth Foundation
Dr.	Shahriar Ahmed	President, Bilal Mosque Association	Bilal Mosque, Beaverton
Rev.	Scott Harkness		First United Methodist Church, Eugene

Rev.	Roberta Egli		Trinity United Methodist Church, Eugene
Rev.	Rhoda Fuentes		Cornelius United Methodist Church
Rev.	R Scott Harikness		United Methodist Church
Mr.	Peter Ware	Chairperson, Justice and Peace Ministry Team	Medford United Church of Christ
Rev.	Peg Lofsvold	Cascadia District Superintendent	United Methodist Church
Ms.	Patricia Morrison	Clerk	South Mountain Friends Meeting
Rev.	Pamela Nelson-Munson		The First United Methodist Church of Eugene
Ms.	Nancy Kyoko Whitaker-Emrich	Zen Teacher	Heart of Wisdom Zen Temple, Portland
Rev.	Michael Powell		Morningside United Methodist Church, Salem
Rev.	Michael Benischek		Oregon City United Methodist Church
Rev.	Melanie Oommen		First Congregational United Church of Christ, Eugene
	Megan Esler	Board of Trustees President at church	West Hills Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
Rev.	Matthew E. Littau		Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
Pastor	Matt Johnson		First Presbyterian Church, McMinnville
The Rev.	M. Lynne Smouse		Ainsworth United Church of Christ
Rev.	Lowell R. Greathouse		Portland First United Methodist Church
Rev.	Linda Tucker		Medford United Methodist Church
Rev.	Linda Quanstrom		Fremont United Methodist Church, Portland
Ms.	Liathana Dalton	President	Interfaith Council of Greater Portland
Rev.	Laura Lee Kent, Pastor		Medford United Church of Christ
Rev.	Katie Larsell	Executive Director	Oregon Unitarian Universalist Voices for Justice
Rev. Dr.	Katherine Conolly		Albany First United Methodist
Ms.	Karla Long	Board Chair	Albany First United Methodist Church
Rev.	Karen Stahr Bloom		Corvallis United Methodist Church

Rev.	Karen Shimer		Canby United Methodist Church
Ms.	Karen Nettler	Board Chair	Oregon Center for Christian Voices
Abbot	Kakumyo Lowe-Charde		Dharma Rain Zen Center, Portland
Rev.	Jyoshin Clay		Dharma Rain Zen Center, Portland
Rev.	June Fothergill		Ebbert Memorial United Methodist Church, Springfield
Rev.	John Schwiebert		Portland Metanouia United Methodist Church
Rev.	John Pitney		McMinnville United Methodist Church
Fr.	John K. Ridgway		St. Ignatius Catholic Church
Rev.	Jeanne Knepper		Portland United Methodist Church
Rev.	Janine DeLaunay		Stayton United Methodist Church
Rev.	Janet Hanson		McMinnville United Methodist Church
Rev.	Janet Burkhart		Salem United Methodist Church
Rev.	James Monroe		Bend United Methodist Church, Sisters
Rev.	Jack Finney		Presbyterian Church (USA)
Rev. Dr.	Hugh Anderson		Cascades Presbytery
Rev.	Gwen Drake		Forest Grove United Methodist Church
Rev.	Eugene H. Luttmann	Pastor Emeritus	Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
Rev.	Erin Martin		Columbia District Superintendent, United Methodist Church
Rev.	Erika Marksbury		The First Baptist Church of McMinnville
Rev.	Eilidh Lowery		Portland United Methodist Church
Rev.	Dwanye Brown		Presbyterian Church (USA)
Rev.	Donna Pritchard		The First United Methodist Church of Portland
Rev.	Donald L. Robinson		Stayton United Methodist Church
Ms.	Diane Freedman	Member, Board of Directors	West Hills Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
Rev.	Dennis Mullins		The First United Methodist Church of Eugene

Rev. Dr.	Deborah Patterson		Smyrna United Church of Christ, Canby
Rev.	Debbie Pitney		McMinnville United Methodist Church
Rabbi	David Kosak		Congregation Neveh Shalom
Bishop	Dave Brauer Rieke		Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
Rev.	Dann Houghton		Eagle Point United Methodist Church
Rev.	Daniel Thompson-Aue		Forest Grove United Methodist Church
Rabbi	Daniel Isaak		Congregation Neveh Shalom
Rev.	Dan Wilson-Fey		Portland United Methodist Church
Rev.	Dan Pitney		First United Methodist Church of Salem
Rev.	Dale Harris		Portland United Methodist Church
Rev. Dr.	Craig S Pesti-Strobel		Junction City United Methodist Church
Rev.	Craig Hall Cutting		Corvallis United Methodist Church
Rev.	Constance Yost		First Unitarian Church, Portland
Rev. Dr.	Chuck Currie	University Chaplain	Pacific University
Rev.	Charles Wallace		First United Methodist Church of Salem
Rev.	Cecil Charles Prescod		Ainsworth United Church of Christ
Rev. Dr	Cathy Davis		Newberg United Methodist Church
Rev. Dr.	Carol Ann Seckel		The United Methodist Church
Rev.	Caren Caldwell		United Church of Christ
Bishop	Calvin McConnell		The United Methodist Church
Rev.	Brian Shimer		Beaverton Westside United Methodist Church
Rev.	Brian Reeves		Presbyterian Church (USA)
Rev.	Brennen Guillory		McMinnville United Methodist Church/Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
Rev.	Brenda Wills		First United Methodist Church, Corvallis
Rev.	Bonnie Parr Philipson		First United Methodist Church, Corvallis
Rabbi	Benjamin Barnett		Havurah Shalom, Portland

Rev.	Bauliana Haddon		First Presbyterian Church, Medford
Rev.	Barbara Nixon		Corvallis United Methodist Church
Rev.	Annis Henson		Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Central Oregon
Rev.	Amy Overton-Harris		Tualatin United Methodist Church
Rev.	Adam Nicholas Phillips		Christ Church: Portland