

From: [Councilor Ponomareff](#)
To: [SENR Exhibits](#)
Cc: [Sen Golden](#)
Subject: In support of LC19: My constituents in the rural city of Talent are demanding bold climate legislation now
Date: Monday, January 20, 2020 3:14:05 PM

Dear Chair Dembrow, Vice Chair Olsen, and members of the Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources,

I am a City Councilor for Talent, a small, rural city of less than 7,000 people in Southern Oregon.

I am writing to you on behalf of myself, and my constituents, to urge the passage of a strengthened Legislative Concept 19 (LC19).

A few years ago, residents in my city spent hundreds of hours putting together a multi-faceted Clean Energy Action Plan, laying out an approach to conserve energy and transition to 100 percent clean, renewable energy within the next two decades.

In November of last year, our city council voted unanimously to codify those objectives as the Energy Element of our Comprehensive Plan, reportedly the first such element in Oregon.

<https://mailtribune.com/news/top-stories/talent-puts-clean-energy-into-the-citys-plan>

We are passionate and willing to work hard, but we need your leadership. Climate legislation will help provide the critical tools my city needs.

- By giving communities like ours the ability to improve energy efficiency in our homes, reducing our living expenses;
- By increasing access to community solar projects, and making solar available to low-income households;
- And by bringing good-paying jobs to communities in rural Oregon -- jobs with dignity and purpose.

I know the people in my city have the foresight and the will to make the transition to a smart, green economy. Rural communities like mine are looking to you, to give us the tools that we need.

I urge you to support the strongest possible version of this legislation, and to ensure that the benefits of this policy are directed to people most impacted by climate change - low income and rural communities, communities of color, and tribal communities.

Thank you for your hard work.

Sincerely,

-eleanor

Eleanor Ponomareff

City Councilor, Position 5

City of Talent

City of Talent
PO Box 445
110 East Main St.
Talent, OR 97540

www.CityofTalent.org

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