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TO: Co-Chairs Dembrow and Power, and Members of the Joint Committee on Carbon Reduction

FROM: Barbara Byrd, Secretary-Treasurer, Oregon AFL-CIO

SUBJECT: Testimony on HB 2020

Co-Chairs Dembrow and Power, and Members of the Committee, my name is Barbara Byrd and I am the Secretary-Treasurer of the Oregon AFL-CIO, representing 300,000 workers in the state of Oregon. We have not yet taken a formal position on HB 2020. You have heard from a few of our affiliated unions. The thoughts I share with you today are a product of an on-going conversation among leaders of those and many other unions in construction, manufacturing, health care, education, government and the service sector.

We recognize the urgency that Oregon lawmakers and the Governor's office are placing on the need to address climate change, because on behalf of our members and their families, we too feel that urgency. We appreciate the efforts you have made to include some provisions to protect workers and create good jobs, and we have some feedback on ways to strengthen the bill from a worker's perspective.

We have 4 overriding goals that drive our work on HB 2020 and climate change in general:

1. Protecting our existing workforce in regulated industries

- We appreciate the bill's efforts to address leakage by allocating free allowances to EITE enterprises. The goal here should be to assure that no worker loses their job due to climate legislation. We believe these free allowances should be distributed only to those employers that treat their employees in a fair and responsible manner.
- We see adequate just transition funding *as a last resort* for impacted workers and communities. We applaud the legislature's attempt to create this fund, and would like to see a set percentage of the revenue from the program allocated to this fund.
- There must be significant labor and community involvement in developing a plan for the fund, as well as overseeing its implementation.

2. **Using revenue from the program to create good, family-wage jobs.**
 - We support the bill's inclusion of apprenticeship utilization and responsible contractor provisions for construction projects and Project Labor Agreements, which we believe should be required on jobs of \$200,000+.
 - We would like to assure that all projects funded by revenue from the bill pay prevailing wage and require labor peace provisions,
3. We want to assure public accountability for the operation of the program via a **strong oversight committee with significant labor and community representation.**
4. Finally, as leaders from our affiliate union, AFSCME, have already testified, we urge that you **maintain DEQ's oversight role** in the implementation of the program rather than assigning oversight to a new agency.