



February 2019

Dear Co-Chair Dembrow, Co-Chair Power, and members of the Joint Carbon Reduction Committee,

I am writing in support of HB 2020. Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony on behalf of The Portland Clinic, LLP. For the record, my name is Katie Dobler and I serve as the Chief Operating Officer for The Portland Clinic.

The Portland Clinic is a 98-year-old, physician owned multi-specialty medical group. We employ over 500 staff at five locations in the tri-county area, including two of Oregon's first ambulatory surgery centers. Known as a high quality, cost effective group, we are dedicated to improving the health and well-being of those we serve. We are writing as a member of Oregon Business for Climate, an organization that represents close to 100 large to medium-sized businesses from across the state in support of HB 2020. As members we share in the organization's mission of reducing our statewide emissions while strengthening Oregon's economy. We believe the cap and trade model that is the foundation of HB 2020 provides the lowest cost option to achieving our reduction targets while also incentivizing and fostering innovation to Oregon's economy. As providers of medical care, we are concerned about the health of our community, the economy and the air we breathe.

We must work quickly to lower our carbon emissions in Oregon, as the longer we wait the more catastrophic the economic and environmental costs will be. To that end, we hope that provisions contained in HB 2020 are not further diluted from what is currently in the bill framework, which we believe would impact the fundamental integrity of the program.

Specifically, we ask that you maintain the bill's strong cap. In addition, we ask that transportation be included from day one of the program and that the maximum allocation of offsets remain at 8%. We are appreciative of the inclusion of a 45% interim target by 2035 which we believe is vital as well as language referencing linkage to other jurisdictions. We implore you to keep these components in the bill language. Without the full force of the current language, we do not see a pathway forward to reduce our carbon emissions to 80% of 1990 levels by 2050.

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We applaud the due diligence that was done during the interim and are encouraged by the evolution of the legislative language as a result of that. It takes lessons learned from other jurisdictions who have come before us, but it also speaks to who Oregon uniquely is. Now it's time to act.

While some of my fellow members of Oregon Business for Climate believe we need to do even more than what this legislation outlines, what we all agree on is that we cannot do *less*. We know you will hear from others who want you to weaken this legislation. Please hold the line.

In the 2019 Session, we see more momentum than ever before to pass this legislation. While Oregon itself may not have a large carbon footprint, we have an outsized responsibility to lead, especially in light of failed action on the federal level.

We urge you to pass HB 2020 now.

Thank you,

Katie Dobler
Chief Operating Officer

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