

March 2, 2019

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

I am here today in support of HB 2020. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on behalf of SolAire Homebuilders. For the record, my name is Cindi O'Neil and I serve as the Co-Owner and Vice President of our high performance home building company.

SolAire Homebuilders is a company that has been building energy efficient, custom homes since 1995. Our recent custom home emphasis is in building Net Zero Energy Homes. Getting our residential, built environment to zero carbon is simply put the right thing to do, for our Oregon residents, our environment and our children. We easily employ 250 people per high efficiency home. All state incentives for renewable energy systems on our homes have disappeared in Oregon. But, we are still doing our part to reduce carbon from the built environment. This is what leaders do.

SolAire is also a member of Oregon Business for Climate, an organization that represents 100 large to medium-sized businesses from across the state in support of HB 2020. As a Board member 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 for achieving our reduction targets while also, and most importantly, incentivizing and fostering innovation to Oregon's green economy.

As business leaders, as legislative leaders, and as citizens of the most forward thinking state in the US, it is imperative that we look far ahead, around the corner, reach across the isles, roll up our sleeves and develop a carbon reduction policy that funds solutions to the impending challenges that climate change brings. We need to fund home and commercial building weatherization projects, we need to incentivize renewable energy projects, we need to fund high performance mass transit, and we need to fund mitigative infrastructure projects to name just a few. We need to attract and create businesses in Oregon that innovate new solutions. We, You, need to do our part. This is what leaders do.

I hope that provisions contained in HB 2020 are not further diluted from what is currently in the bill framework, which I believe would impact the fundamental integrity of the program.

Oregon Business for Climate applauds the due diligence that was done during the interim and are encouraged by the evolution of the legislative language as a result of that.

While I agree with some of my fellow members of Oregon Business for Climate that we need to do even more than what this legislation outlines, what we all agree on is that we cannot do *less*. Please hold the line. I ask you to do your part. This is what leaders do.

We urge you to pass HB 2020 now.

Thank you.

Cindi O'Neil

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Vice President/Co-Owner  
SolAire Homebuilders