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Written Testimony to the Senate Committee on Business and Government on House Bill 2093

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Founded in 1968, the Oregon Environmental Council (OEC) is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, membership-based organization. We advance innovative, collaborative and equitable solutions to Oregon's environmental challenges for today and future generations.

Oregon Environmental Council supports HB 2093.

Demand for electric vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure is growing, and the state has an important part to play in ensuring Oregonians have a wide variety of places to charge their EVs. HB 2093 would permit the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) to locate and install EV charging stations on state-owned premises, helping to meet that demand.

We need to accelerate the move to a clean transportation system. EVs produce zero air pollution at the tailpipe, and their lifecycle greenhouse gas emissions are far lower than cars fueled by fossil fuels. In fact, Oregon can't meet its climate goals without fully electrifying its transportation sector by 2035-2040.

Currently, only about 18,000 of Oregon's 3.2 million passenger vehicles are EVs. To assure car buyers that an EV is a logical, cost-effective choice, Oregon needs an extensive charging infrastructure network (not just in cities and along the state's busiest highways, but also in rural communities).

HB 2093 is an important step to ensure that DAS can participate in providing more EV infrastructure for operation of state agency-owned electric vehicles, state employee charging, and public charging at state facilities.

Thank you for supporting a cleaner, healthier transportation system.