

June 5, 2019

The Honorable Kathleen Taylor  
The Honorable Jeff Reardon  
Co-Chairs, Joint Committee on Ways and Means Subcommittee on Natural Resources  
900 Court St., NE  
Salem, OR 97301

RE: House Bill 2020-A – Support

Dear Co-Chair Taylor and Co-Chair Reardon,

We, the undersigned, are writing in support of House Bill 2020-A, the Clean Energy Jobs Act. First, we want to acknowledge the effort and leadership the Joint Committee on Carbon Reduction demonstrated during the interim hearings process and during session.

The committee's willingness to hold hearings across the state to listen to the ideas and concerns of Oregonians while working to craft solutions among a diverse group of stakeholders is deeply appreciated. The result is climate legislation that transitions the state to a cleaner energy future in a way that builds on and complements Oregon's existing policies and values.

Oregon's efforts to transition to a cleaner and greener resource portfolio began over a decade ago with the enactment of the renewable portfolio standard in 2007. Starting with that effort, Oregon's consumer and environmental groups, labor, and utilities have come together to support policies that are putting our state on a path to a clean energy future. As a result, Oregon's electricity system is on a cleaner path.

HB 2020 continues that tradition of working together and finding balanced outcomes, this time on an economy-wide scale. Stakeholders and citizens alike have participated in a number of work groups and public hearings across the state to help craft a climate policy framework that recognizes the economic and social diversity of our state and builds on existing climate policies.

Key components of House Bill 2020-A include:

- Establishes the Climate Action Program to help achieve the state's climate goals;
- Caps greenhouse gas emissions economy-wide and creates a flexible, cost-effective compliance mechanism;
- Recognizes the impacts that climate change has on vulnerable populations and prioritizes investments in those communities around the state;
- Dedicates funding in a way that balances mitigation, sequestration, adaptation, resilience and transition strategies to benefit our people and economy;
- Strengthens and enhances energy efficiency and renewable energy investments; accelerates transportation electrification opportunities, and invests in natural and working lands.
- Protects low- and fixed-income communities by providing credits and prioritizing investments to reduce energy burden;
- Creates strong, family-wage jobs and protections for workers;
- Includes strong accountability and oversight of the program; and,
- Creates new and innovative economic development opportunities across Oregon, including in our tribal, rural and coastal communities.

We ask for your support of House Bill 2020-A and are available to answer any questions you may have as you work on the legislation in committee.

Sincerely,



CC: The Honorable Betsy Johnson  
The Honorable Elizabeth Steiner-Hayward  
The Honorable Dan Rayfield  
Co-Chairs, Joint Committee on Ways and Means