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House Committee on Rules

Testimony in favor of HB 4167

Submitted by Amelia Porterfield, Senior Policy Advisor

The Nature Conservancy (TNC) is a science-based, non-partisan organization committed to conserving the lands and waters on which all life depends. In Oregon, TNC has over 80,000 supporters and members in every county. Our staff, based in communities around the state, work collaboratively with tribes, agencies, elected officials, private landowners, businesses, and natural resource stakeholders to develop innovative solutions to the major challenges facing people and nature.

Oregon's communities are feeling the effects of climate change, experiencing increased fires, extreme temperatures, droughts and floods that harm our health, damage crops and imperil the economic strength of Oregon's rural communities. If we don't act now, the impact on Oregon's lands, waters and communities that rely on agriculture and other natural resource-based economies will be in even greater risk.

Addressing climate change is a top priority for TNC in Oregon and around the world. We support passage of a strong carbon pricing bill that cuts carbon emissions through an efficient, economy-wide program based on the best available science, that invests in natural & working lands and protects climate-impacted communities.

Years of robust discussion and legislative deliberation on this issue have provided the opportunity for communities across the state and Oregonians from different backgrounds to weigh in on the policy. The cap and invest program built from those discussions will help Oregon contribute our share to address a global crisis, meet our carbon reduction goals and make much needed investments throughout the state.

Thank you for your close attention to this issue and to this legislation. We urge the legislature's swift action to pass this policy this session.