

Members of the Committee;

My name is Diane Chavez. I live in Salem, Oregon. I am a retired teacher and biologist, a parent and a grandparent.

We are in a climate crisis. The science is clear. We need to make changes now. We need to reduce the amount of carbon that we are putting into the air and we need to increase the capacity of our soils to sequester carbon through regenerative agriculture and forestry practices.

This is a solvable problem. We can transition off of fossil fuels. The clean energy jobs bill offers a framework to do this. We can transition off of fossil fuels but we will always need clean water, clean air and healthy soils. We must protect these resources, now and always.

In ten years my grandchildren will be entering college and the work force. I want to leave them an economy that works for the future, an economy based on renewable energy, a circular, zero waste economy, a local economy. The climate crisis is a major threat to a livable planet, but also to a sustainable economy.

We are in a crisis but we also have an opportunity to build a cleaner, healthier, more just future. Please pass this bill now for the youth of today. We cannot delay any longer.