

Chair Power, Vice-Chairs Helm and Brock Smith, and Members of the House Energy & Environment Committee,

For the record my name is Twila Jacobsen and I am co-chair of the SEIU503 Climate Justice Committee.

As a diverse union with members living in metropolitan, rural, suburban and frontier areas throughout Oregon, we are familiar and for some, intimately impacted by challenges presented by the climate crisis and systemic environmental racism. We are often the public face to regulations and rules responsible for meeting the goals of agencies delivering healthcare, safe roads and public spaces, clean water and healthy soils, and equal access to such public goods.

The regulations and planning provided by a new Goal 20 will assist in the provision and access to what supports a healthy community, i.e. affordable housing, clean water supported by protecting watersheds, farmland that produces local food, based on land use planning including people of color, indigenous communities and low-income households, particularly seniors and children.

Now is the time to move forward long-needed reforms to our statewide land use planning goals. If our state is to adequately confront the 21st Century, then we need a 21st Century planning system that is up to the task. For that reason, I urge you to support HB 2488—Equity and Climate in Land Use, to ensure that Oregon's land use planning system includes a comprehensive and rounded approach to addressing climate change mitigation and adaptation, equity, hazard risk reduction and environmental justice.