

My name is Rachel Ozretich, and I live in Corvallis, Oregon. I am a widow, a mother of two young men, and a grandmother of 3 children. I am a very long-time member of the Corvallis Unitarian-Universalist Fellowship and the current convener of one of two groups of members who are very knowledgeable and extremely worried about the Climate Emergency.

When I was a junior in high school many years ago, I learned that CO₂ in our atmosphere was warming the air and water of our planet, and I learned why that was happening. I majored in Chemistry during my undergraduate years, and Chemical Oceanography in graduate school. During all of the years since, I have been keeping tabs on this increasing poisoning of our atmosphere and oceans, and more and more I have been doing my best to convince our local, state, and national leaders that there is no time to waste in effectively turning this growing menace around before there is no going back!

I keep track of the regular reports from the IPCC (International Panel on Climate Change), and along with the Corvallis/Albany chapter of the NAACP, in recent years I have been trying to inform our city and county leaders about the Climate Emergency and its inordinate effects on People of Color and the increasingly extreme long-term danger it presents to our Children and Youth.

The science is very clear!! We must act quickly and wisely to prevent the climate catastrophe that at least 97% of the world's atmospheric and oceanographic scientists have been warning us about for many years!! I believe that passing HB 2021, along with related bills, could contribute to our species' likelihood of survival. We owe our best efforts to our families, children, grandchildren, and to the rest of humanity. ALL of humanity depends on the viability of this world and its biosphere!!

Thank you very much for listening.