

Dear Chair Marsh and Committee members,

My name is Danielle Maillard and I am a youth climate organizer with Sunrise PDX. I urge you to support HB 2021 so that Oregonians are supported in a safe and just transition to renewable energy. We need to create good, well-paying, local jobs in this sector that incentivize local projects that are good for communities and that reduce pollution by achieving 100% clean energy as soon as possible. HB 2021 is an excellent step in the right direction as it is legislation that addresses climate change while simultaneously promoting the success and well-being of those who will be most affected by the shift to renewable energy infrastructure.

Right now, with a pandemic and consistent wildfires, we need energy policy that helps us to recover and build back. This bill will create opportunities across the state that offer new jobs and local economic and resiliency benefits. It is a wonderful opportunity to build up local confidence in renewable energy and prove that this shift doesn't result in a loss of jobs, but rather a substantial gain. With the implementation of this bill, we have the opportunity to create more demand for needed clean energy projects that put Oregonians to work who are in desperate need of good-paying jobs during these unprecedented times.

Today, energy bills are high, renewable energy is cheap, and people are out of work. Please make this decision for Oregonians now, and for Oregonians ten years from now. Without bills like HB 2021, we will fall further and further into our concurrent crises, and rural, low-income, Black, Indigenous, other people of color, and Tribal Nations will continue to be impacted most dramatically by the outdated policies and poor infrastructure that has gone ignored for far too long. Please invest in the well-being of all Oregonians and support HB 2021. Thank you to Representative Marsh and Representative Wilde for sponsoring this bill and to all that have put the effort into its existence.

Sincerely,
Danielle Maillard
Sunrise PDX