

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

Thanks very much for the opportunity to testify in support of House Bill 2021, 100% Clean Energy for All. I am a retired school counselor and university professor. I have resided in rural Lane County on five acres for 35 years and treasure the natural beauty and resources of our county and state. In the last seven years, I have worked tirelessly as a community organizer to educate and engage my community to take climate action seriously and work for the strong policies we need to address the climate emergency we now collectively face.

I have been a strong supporter of unions all my life, and appreciate this moment in time where the Oregon legislature can put Oregonians to work in good-paying, family wage jobs with clean energy projects that our economy desperately needs. We need community-based projects that increase independence, energy affordability, and disaster resilience. You can require utilities to acquire resources from local solar sources, and invest in a reliable and resilient grid. You can create programs that retrain energy workers, apprentice young and underrepresented groups, while making our economy stronger. Clean energy is proving to be much more efficient and affordable, not to mention safer and healthier.

Please support this 100% Clean Energy For All bill so that Oregon can attain 100% clean electricity as soon as possible with the strongest possible labor standards for new projects.

By setting clear targets for cleaning up Oregon's electricity and supporting community-based energy projects and good jobs for local communities, we can seize the opportunity of clean energy to help rebuild from today's many crises.

Thank you for your time and for the opportunity to testify in support of House Bill 2021. Please support a strong 100% Clean Energy Standard with good jobs and community-based energy projects for Oregonians.

Sincerely,  
Debra McGee, Eugene, OR, LPC, M.Ed.