

Testimony to the House Energy and Environment Committee
HB 2488-2: Addressing climate justice through land use planning

Chair Marsh, Vice Chairs Helm and Brock-Smith,

My name is Dr. Pat DeLaquil, an energy policy expert and resident of Gresham. I organize with the OLCV Metro Climate Action Team (MCAT) is a community of volunteers working to ensure Oregon is a leader in addressing the climate crisis.

HB 2488-2 is an important bill for climate and environmental justice in Oregon. It requires the Land Conservation and Development Commission (LCDC) to adopt a new state-wide climate justice planning goal by June 30, 2023. This is the first time that Oregon is seeking to create a climate justice goal in Oregon's land use planning. Without this bill, local governments are free to continue to ignore the impact of climate change when making planning and land use decisions. It is critical that HB 2488-2:

- Includes specific climate change measures that reduce GHG emissions, that increase GHG storage, and that mitigate the impact of the climate crisis on all Oregonians.

- Ensures that disadvantaged groups have equal opportunity to participate in land use planning and decision-making.

- Adopts practices to address inclusion, environmental justice & equity in land-use planning and decision-making.

With a climate justice goal, local governments will need to plan for the future impacts that climate change will have on all public facilities, infrastructure and services, natural hazards, natural resource, economic development, housing and transportation.

Sincerely,

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