

Testimony in Support of House Bill 4139 Joint Committee on Transportation

Speaker of the House Dan Rayfield February 17, 2022

Co-chairs Beyer and McClain, members of the Committee, thank you for having me.

My name is Dan Rayfield, state representative for House District 16, representing Corvallis, Philomath, and Oregon State University. I support the passage of HB 4139 as amended by the -2 amendment.

The intent of HB 4139 with the -2 is to reduce greenhouse gas emissions caused by the construction and maintenance of our state transportation system. To do so, the legislation establishes a program at the Oregon Department of Transportation to collect Environmental Product Declarations, or EPDs, for the steel, concrete, and asphalt procured in the construction of our roads, bridges, and highways. ODOT will then implement strategies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions using the new data available through the collection of EPDs.

To assist in the establishment of this program and implementation of GHG reduction strategies, ODOT will convene a technical advisory committee made up of a broad selection of stakeholders from the transportation construction sector, including industry partners, environmental advocates, and labor representatives, among others.

Additionally, ODOT will administer a grant program to assist material producers in getting all necessary data to develop EPDs.

This policy has been developed over the course of the last few legislative sessions and is the culmination of many hours of work from both stakeholders and agency representatives. In particular, I would like to thank Ranfis Villatoro from BlueGreen Alliance, Rich Angstrom from the Oregon Concrete and Aggregate Producers Association, John Hickey from the Asphalt Producers of Oregon Association, and Kayla Hootsman and Lindsay Baker from ODOT.

I fully support HB 4139 with the -2 and am confident that the framework it sets out will help achieve the central goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions from the construction and maintenance of our state transportation system, without causing undue burden on either the agency or our partners in industry.