

Submitter: Amanda Duncan
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means
Measure: SB5506

Dear Committee Members,

I am a long-time Oregonian concerned about the effects of climate change. I know the committee is facing some tough decisions – there are many important issues competing for funds. I also know that it can be tempting to prioritize issues for which actions can result in immediate, direct effects. It is easier to delay addressing larger, complex problems like climate change.

However, climate change affects everything, including the other “competing” issues. If you care about the health of Oregonians, then you care about the negative health consequences of heat, wildfire smoke, and disease that will come with climate change. If you care about housing, then you care about the Oregonians who will be displaced because of wildfires and rising ocean levels. If you care about education, it’s because you care about the future of our children. That future will be profoundly affected by the environmental disasters that will occur unless we act swiftly and decisively both to mitigate and to adapt to climate change. It is already too late to prevent many results of the changing climate, but what we do in the next few years will have an enormous impact on the lives of Oregonians for many generations.

Please keep the big picture in mind as you evaluate the bills that have come to the Committee and support the bills that will help us meet our climate goals.

Thank you very much for your leadership.

Amanda Duncan
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