

Submitter: Elizabeth Doerr

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Energy and Environment

Measure: SB1559

Dear Senate Committee on Energy and Environment,

I'm writing in support of SB 1559 that will update Oregon's climate goals targeting emissions reductions. The bill also adds language establishing goals for Oregon to reach net-zero emissions by 2050 and net-zero-minus thereafter. I believe it has never been more urgent to make these changes.

I'm writing to you as a parent who is worried about the future of this planet for my child and his peers. I'm worried that we have not made nearly enough progress to limit carbon emissions to keep the planet's warming below 1.5 degrees or at the very least to a habitable temperature. We have less than a decade remaining to cut greenhouse gas emissions in half to avoid catastrophic and irreversible climate impacts. Efforts to prevent further climate change has never been more urgent. Almost every year we experience "historic" climate disasters across the state as a result of fossil fuel use. Communities of color, low-income households, and rural communities bear a disproportionate burden.

As such, SB 1559's updated climate targets will better align us with neighboring West Coast jurisdictions and President Biden's nationally determined contribution (NDC) commitment to cut U.S. emissions in half by 2030. Near-term emissions reductions will also provide public health and economic co-benefits, by improving air quality and health outcomes, and by positioning Oregon to be a leader in producing clean energy technologies that the entire world is seeking in the clean energy transition.

For these reasons, I strongly urge you to support SB 1559. Thank you for considering my testimony.