



4145 NE Cully Blvd., Portland, OR, 97630 | 503-290-8570

April 4, 2025

To: House Committee on Emergency Management, General Government, and Veterans

RE: Support HB 3062

Chair Tran, Vice-Chair Grayber, Vice-Chair Lewis, and members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. My name is Xitlali Torres, and I am the Air Quality and Climate Coordinator at Verde.

I am here today because I have witnessed too many instances where industrial development is done while community members are left by the wayside feeling that their needs and wishes for their neighborhood and their safety are not heard, nor considered. This damages the relationship between community members and their local governments. This does not need to happen.

Yes, there are *some* systems in place to protect people from the consequences of industry, but they have not gone far enough. HB 3062 bridges those gaps using existing, proven, processes, Cleaner Air Oregon, and existing city codes.

It only makes sense to provide the opportunity to find out what harm could be done to nearby residents, so that there is ample time and space to mitigate the possible risks for the most vulnerable populations. Currently, there is no comprehensive data on the impacts of warehouses and distribution centers, a sector that is predicted to grow significantly in our state in the coming years. HB 3062 provides a framework for that.

This is not about control, it is about protection, modernizing Oregon's land use laws to meet the moment we are in, and ensuring meaningful, good-faith efforts toward collaboration. It's time to leave one-sided decision-making in the past.

Over the years Oregon has laid the foundation for more community-centered and environmental justice laws, for example,

- Oregon Administrative Rule 660-009-0025(6): "Cities and counties are **strongly encouraged** to manage encroachment and intrusion of uses incompatible with industrial and other employment uses. Strategies for managing encroachment and intrusion of incompatible uses include, but are not limited to: transition areas around uses having negative impacts on surrounding areas, design criteria, district designation, and limiting non-essential uses within districts"
- Or ORS 757.747 "As used in this section, "environmental justice" means the equal treatment, protection from environmental and health hazards, and meaningful involvement of environmental justice communities in the development, implementation,



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and enforcement of regulations and policies that affect the environment in which people live, work, learn, practice spirituality and play.”

Policies like this one are how we continue to work towards the goals that Oregon has set out.

HB 3062 is a necessary modernization of Oregon's land use laws that meets the need to protect the health and safety of communities while our warehouse sector expands. The -3 amendment represents a narrowing of the original concept, and a compromise to listen to affected entities to strengthen it. Please vote yes on this legislation on the -3 amendment to ensure safety for future communities.

Thank you again for the opportunity to testify,

Xitlali Torres  
Air Quality and Climate Coordinator  
Verde