

**Testimony to the House Climate, Energy, and Environment Committee
re: HB 4029**

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Oregon Environmental Council**

Founded in 1968, the Oregon Environmental Council (OEC) is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, membership-based organization. We advance equitable, innovative, and collaborative solutions to Oregon's environmental challenges for today and future generations.

Re: Oregon Environmental Council support for HB 4029

Chair Lively and Members of the Committee,

On behalf of Oregon Environmental Council and our thousands of members throughout the state, I write in strong support of HB 4029. This legislation takes an important step toward protecting Oregonians from deceptive practices in the residential solar market — and it does so in a way that supports, rather than stifles, the continued growth of solar in our state.

Solar energy is one of our most powerful tools for meeting Oregon's clean electricity goals under HB 2021. But when Oregonians are taken advantage of by bad actors during what should be an exciting step toward energy independence, that undermines public trust in solar and slows the very transition we need. HB 4029 directly addresses this problem.

First, this bill establishes clear transparency requirements. By mandating plain-language disclosures before a sale, lease, or power purchase agreement is finalized — including itemized costs, accurate production estimates, and an honest accounting of fees and financing — HB 4029 ensures Oregonians know exactly what they're buying. Transparency is key to accountability, and these disclosures give consumers the information they need to make informed decisions.

Second, the bill strengthens consumer protections in two important ways. It clarifies the right to rescind a contract within three business days at no cost — a critical safeguard against high-pressure sales tactics. And it provides for consumer-led enforcement under the Unlawful Trade Practices Act, ensuring that deceptive statements about costs, financing, or contract terms can be held accountable.

Importantly, HB 4029 is the product of collaboration. Stakeholders — including the solar industry, consumer advocates, and utilities — worked together over the past year to develop these requirements. The result is a balanced framework that enables the solar industry to continue expanding in Oregon while giving Oregonians confidence that they are being treated fairly.

Oregon Environmental Council and our thousands of members across the state urge you to support HB 4029.

Sincerely,

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