

February 4, 2026

Senate Committee on Energy and Environment
Oregon State Capitol
900 Court St. NE
Salem Oregon 97301

RE: Support for SB 1526

Chair Sollman, Vice-Chair Brock Smith, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Rebecca Smith, and I serve as the Senior Director of Policy and Education for the Renewable Hydrogen Alliance (RHA). RHA is a regional non-profit trade association enabling access to safe, affordable, and renewable hydrogen for communities across the Pacific Northwest. Our 80+ members represent the full value chain of the hydrogen ecosystem – hydrogen technology and service providers, equipment manufacturers, project developers, public transit agencies, labor unions, utilities, and many others. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of SB 1526 on behalf of RHA and its members.

Financing vehicles like the one proposed in the FORGE Act are an increasingly common tool for state governments to support the development of energy infrastructure projects aligned with their climate and energy goals. Washington state has established one to pursue financing resources, and establishing a similar mechanism in Oregon would help maintain a competitive environment for development in the state.

Low-carbon and renewable hydrogen projects tend to be large, with multiple project partners, off-takers, and infrastructure requirements. Since the federal government defunded the Pacific Northwest Hydrogen Hub, there is now a gap in public-sector funding for hydrogen and other clean fuels projects. The PNWH2 hub secured a 5:1 private match, meaning the private sector committed \$5 billion in private capital to match the \$1 billion in public funds the hub was to receive.

Growing Oregon's clean fuels portfolio will be an essential part of achieving the state's energy goals and specifically aligning with the Governor's Prosperity Roadmap and the recommendations from the Oregon Department of Energy's Oregon Energy Strategy.

Thank you for your consideration,


Rebecca Smith
Senior Director, Policy and Education