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SOCAN Comments supporting HB4080

Chair Lively and members of the House Committee on Climate, Energy, and Environment:

I write as cofacilitator of Southern Oregon Climate Action Now (SOCAN), the oldest grassroots climate organization in the Rogue Valley now representing some 2,000 Southern Oregonians who are concerned about the climate crisis and seek federal, state and local action to address it. We are rural and coastal Southern Oregonians who live on the frontlines of the warming, reducing snowpack, heatwaves, drought, rising sea level and the increasing wildfire risk that these trends conspire to impose on us. Because of our concern, we pay close attention to efforts nationally, statewide, and locally that impact our collective efforts to address the climate crisis. As our logo above indicates, the focus of SOCAN is to promote action through science while encouraging that this be undertaken through a social justice lens.

We are committed to the principle that addressing the climate crisis is best fulfilled by urging Oregonian to electrify their lives to the maximum extent possible. Although some Oregonian electricity is still generated by coal-fired power plants, by 20240 this will no longer be the case, as HB2021 (in 2021) demanded. We can assist Oregonians to wean themselves from fossil fuels by encouraging them, whenever possible, to switch from appliances that are powered by fossil fuels to elect appliances. While most Oregonians remain completely dependent on the grid for their electricity supply because, for various reasons, they are unable to install solar or wind to provide themselves with electricity, we can help those who live in apartments, whether owned or rented, to augment their grid sources with photovoltaic panels installed, for example on their balconies. Unlike permanently installed devices, these can be transported to other locations should the owners move.

For this reason, Southern Oregon Climate Action Now endorses and urges passage of HB4080.

Respectfully Submitted

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alan Journet". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Alan" and last name "Journet" clearly distinguishable.

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