

February 18, 2019

To: Chairs Dembrow and Power, and Members of the Committee:

As a member of the League of Women Voters' Climate Portfolio, we have submitted testimony about the need for strong interim targets and the science behind those recommendations.

However, today, I will testify for myself.

Through my attention to this issue, I have had my perspective widened about the pervasive effects of climate change - not only to the natural world, but in banking and insurance, in stranded assets, and income lost due to environmental disaster. At great expense, we must increasingly respond to emergencies - of fire, drought, and floods; of unhealthy heat, air and water.

The rapid transition to energy sources that don't emit greenhouse gases is critical. I know that there are financial impacts of the deep structural changes we need to make, to save a livable Oregon. Though economic forecasts show positive outcomes in the long run, transition will be challenging.

We have got to protect our vulnerable citizens.

2018 versions of this legislation allocated percentage distributions, within the Climate Investment Funds to designated communities, and to the Just Transition Fund. I would like to see similar guidance crafted in Section 30 of our bill. We need to designate specific protection for low income communities, both rural and inside the urban growth boundary, and for those exposed to local toxic hazards.

Fisheries will continue to be deeply impacted. Our farmers, ranchers and foresters will need to transition to crops, irrigation techniques, farming and forestry practices that adapt to the hotter, drier conditions and that provide for increased carbon sequestration. All offsets should be required to have Oregon benefits.

We need this bill.

Thank you for hearing my input.

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(And, special thanks to the legislators, who at some point in the past, voted to put the Citizen Engagement videos on the OLIS page!)