

**Providence Health & Services**  
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March 8, 2019

The Honorable Michael Dembrow and  
The Honorable Karin Power  
Co-Chairs, Joint Committee on Carbon Reduction  
State Capitol  
Salem, Oregon 97301

RE: Support for House Bill 2020, Cap and Trade

Dear Co-Chairs Dembrow and Power and members of the committee:

On behalf of Providence Health & Services, I would like to offer the following testimony regarding the Oregon legislature's efforts on Cap and Trade. In this era of growing concern about the rising amounts of greenhouse gas admissions into our atmosphere as a leading contributor to global warming – we believe it is critical that Providence voice our support for the State's efforts.

Providence is a faith-based, not-for-profit health system that proudly serves as Oregon's largest health care provider, largest health plan and the largest private employer. As a health care provider we are committed to providing for the immediate needs of our patients, but we are equally committed to creating a better world and believe that our ministries play a fundamental part in transforming the future of our communities.

Our vision for this work was outlined most recently by the Sisters of Providence, Mother Joseph Province, in December 2009: *We ask that you be good stewards of all we have been given for this ministry, our people, our resources and our earth. Our society has not always been wise in its use of our land, water and air. We hope Providence will be a model of good stewardship that we may demonstrate faithfulness to our values and that others may learn sound stewardship practices from us.*

In response, Providence has set high goals and is tracking our success related to energy and water use; greenhouse gas reduction; waste optimization; reduction of hazardous chemicals; increased healthy and sustainable foods; supply chain environmental preferred purchasing; and employee, public and patient engagement.

In health care we rely on evidence-based, clinically proven models to improve the lives of our patients, and similarly we encourage the committee to make policy decisions based on the most recent science and the principles of predictive modeling. Greenhouse gasses are causing climate change. These include but are not limited to: carbon dioxide, nitrous oxide, methane, anesthetic gasses used in surgery, refrigerant gasses for home and commercial air conditioners, and others. To minimize the damage from global warming we must cut emissions significantly.

Providence Health & Services is proud to have been a part of Oregon communities for more than 160 years, during which time we have pursued our Mission of caring for those in need with the utmost compassion and respect. As leaders we ask you to join us in protecting Oregon's future for the next 160 years and support House Bill 2020, an important step forward.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Lisa Vance', with a large, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Lisa Vance  
Chief Executive  
Providence Health & Services - Oregon