



Oregon Citizens' Utility Board

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To: Joint Committee on Transportation
From: Janice Thompson, Deputy Director – Oregon Citizens' Utility Board
Re: Support for SB 1044-4

The Oregon Citizens' Utility Board (CUB) urges your support for SB 1044-4.

The transportation sector is the source of approximately 40 percent of Oregon's greenhouse gas emissions and emissions from this sector have been increasing. Reversing this emissions trend is an essential element of a comprehensive approach to climate change. SB 1044-4 provides a coordinated transportation electrification policy framework with metrics and the aggressive goals needed to move Oregon to a zero-emission vehicle future.

CUB particularly supports providing flexibility for schools that have taken energy efficiency steps to use public purpose charge resources for zero-emission vehicles, including electric school buses. The dash 4 version of SB 1044 includes improvements over the base bill regarding State Department of Energy reporting. Another important addition is language regarding additional support and innovative solutions to ensure that all Oregonians benefit from transportation electrification.

SB 1044-4 is also complementary to HB 2020, particularly that bill's provision regarding Public Utility Commission assessment of utility infrastructure investments that support adoption of alternatives like electric vehicles. Both bills will advance important greenhouse gas reduction steps needed to address climate change. CUB urges a "yes" vote on SB 1044-4.