



March 8, 2021

House Committee on Energy and Environment
Oregon State Capitol
Salem, OR 97301

Re: HB 2488 - SUPPORT

Chair Marsh and Members of the Committee,

We write in strong support of HB 2488. Climate Solutions is a regional nonprofit working to accelerate clean energy solutions to the climate crisis. Oregon Environmental Council (OEC) is a nonprofit organization advancing innovative, collaborative and equitable solutions to Oregon's environmental challenges for today and future generations.

As more extreme weather events fueled by climate change continue to take a toll on our world, our state has been hit hard by climate change fueled fires, floods, extreme heat and more. Oregon is also no exception to the fact that its most vulnerable and underserved communities (Native American governments and tribal communities, Black, Latinx and other people of color, as well as low-income and under-resourced rural communities) are even more vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. In order to alleviate the threats that climate change brings to all Oregonians as well as address existing inequities that would otherwise be compounded for communities most vulnerable, **we need a land use planning system that explicitly addresses climate change adaptation and mitigation as well as climate and environmental justice.**

HB 2488 also supports Governor Brown's Executive Order 20-04, which states that agencies are directed to, "Consider and integrate climate change, climate change impacts, and the state's GHG emissions reduction goals into their planning, budgets, investment and policy making decisions", including prioritizing, "actions that will help vulnerable populations and impacted communities adapt to climate change impacts." HB 2488 with amendment - 1, stays within the Governor's recommended budget for DLCD to undertake this work while also streamlining the bill by creating a single new Goal 20 to address climate change responses, equity and environmental and climate justice in this biennium.

Please support Equity and Climate in Land Use to ensure that all Oregonians are better prepared for the impacts of climate change by voting YES on HB 2488! Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Sincerely,

Victoria Paykar
Oregon Transportation Policy Manager
Climate Solutions

Sara Wright
Program Director, Transportation
Oregon Environmental Council