

To: Members of the Senate Committee on Energy and Environment From: Rhett Lawrence, Pacific Northwest Policy Manager Date: February 4, 2021 RE: Support for Senate Bill 333

Chair Beyer and Members of the Committee:

Forth is pleased to submit this written testimony in support of Senate Bill 333. Forth is a nonprofit trade association that advocates for the advancement of electric, hydrogen, shared, smart, connected, and autonomous mobility. We have nearly 200 members, including auto manufacturers, electric vehicle charging suppliers, industry partners, utilities, local governments, and non-profit environmental organizations.

As you know, Oregon has ambitious greenhouse gas reduction goals and we are already behind in meeting them. And given that the transportation sector is now the biggest component of our state's greenhouse gas emissions, it is critical that we take steps to get those transportation emissions headed down — and quickly. Dramatically increasing the use of battery electric and hydrogen fuel cell vehicles is one of the most significant steps we can take to reduce those transportation emissions. Our organization has been proud to join with Forth members Toyota, the Renewable Hydrogen Alliance, and others in demonstrating that hydrogen is a critical component of the next step into our transportation future.

We support SB 333 and its provisions to study and assess pathways for Oregon to meet our decarbonization goals by facilitating the production and use of renewable hydrogen. Forth believes that this economic assessment of renewable hydrogen would help Oregon to accelerate its decarbonization targets across the power sector and other industries. Passing SB 333 will thus help the state to determine the economic impacts and benefits of bringing renewable hydrogen into our toolkit to meet our carbon reduction goals and promote a diverse clean resource portfolio to ensure a reliable, cost-effective electricity supply.

Thank you very much for considering our comments and please do not hesitate to reach out to me of we may be of further assistance to the Committee.

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