



# NAACP

## PORTLAND BRANCH 1120

March 17, 2021

Dear Chair Beyer and Members of the Senate Energy and Environment Committee,

On behalf of the Portland NAACP Branch 1120, we would like to express our support SCR 17: An Environmental Justice Framework for Oregon, and urge that you do as well.

SCR 17 lays an environmental justice foundation for future policies and practices that are based on the right to ethical, balanced, healthy, and responsible uses of land, water and renewable resources for future Oregonians.

Environmental injustice and the impacts of climate change have a disproportionate impact on communities of color who are often placed in residential areas with the poorest of air and water quality, contaminated lands, and areas most likely to be impacted by environmental hazards. Approving the Concurrent Resolution for an environmental justice framework in Oregon shows a commitment to equitable action and change.

Within the NAACP's Environmental Justice and Climate Justice Program, our goals are to address the many practices that have harmed communities of color nationwide and work towards new policies that are needed to rectify these impacts. SCR 17 aligns with our mission and purpose. Although it is not legally binding, this Concurrent Resolution serves as a starting point towards future policies that address the needs of our most vulnerable communities, the disproportionate exposure to environmental hazards they face, and advancing a future society that is sustainable and inclusive for all.

We appreciate your continued leadership for Oregonians and encourage you to strive towards achieving environmental and climate justice for all. Please vote yes on SCR 17 and recommend it for passage to your Oregon Senate colleagues.

Sincerely,

J'reyesha Brannon, Environmental Justice Chair  
Portland NAACP Branch 1120  
Environmental Justice Committee