

March 22, 2021

Dear Members of Oregon House Committee on Energy and Environment,  
Testimony in Support of a strong HB 2021

My name is Catherine Bax. I am a 72-year-old now retired Physician Assistant and I am going to do whatever I can in the next decade or so of my life to ensure that my home state, Oregon moves to 100% Clean Energy for All, exactly what HB 2021 must be designed to do.

HB 2021 not only needs to ensure that 100% of Oregon's electricity will be generated from renewable or emissions-free sources by 2040, but it also must include strong labor standards (prevailing wage, health and retirement benefits and good apprenticeship programs) for the large energy projects. Also, this bill needs to make clear that its benefits are realized in the BIPOC, low-income, rural, coastal communities and the Tribes.

If we are really going to make 100% Clean energy a reality in Oregon before 2040, strong specific interim goals are necessary.

I think HB 2021 is the most important bill before the Oregon legislature this year. There are so many benefits that this bill could bring to Oregonians: good jobs around the state, resiliency of our energy grid, energy affordability and the clean energy that means less carbon emissions and the hope of stemming the climate change devastation that faces our planet.

Our house is on fire. Climate change, caused by carbon emissions that we humans emit, has to be addressed right now. Together, we can make sure that our state is onboard, if not a leader in this crucial mission.

Thank you for reading my testimony and for the work that you do.

Sincerely,

Catherine Bax

2007 NE Mason

Portland, Oregon 97211