

Dear Chair Marsh, Vice-Chairs Helm and Smith, and Members of the House Committee on Energy and the Environment,

I am a scientist and a mother and have been an Oregon resident for almost 18 years. I urge you to support HB 2488—Equity and Climate in Land Use. Statewide land use planning decisions need to involve everyone in Oregon. Native American governments and tribal communities, Black, Latinx and other people of color, as well as low income and under-resourced rural communities have been underrepresented in these decisions in the past and have borne a disproportionately large share of pollution and environmental risks and hazards. HB 2488 helps Oregon address climate change and environmental justice and equity in the planning system, which is the only way to prevent climate responses from reinforcing existing inequities.

Coleen Miller