

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

I support House Bill 2021 with the -5 and -9 amendments, the 100% Clean Energy for All bill. I am 26 years old and live in Portland, and have been gravely concerned about the climate crisis for all of my adult life. The climate crisis greatly exacerbates inequalities and injustices that already plague our society, and the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic continues to exacerbate inequalities as well. The transition to clean energy is now inevitable. What matters now is HOW this transition occurs, to ensure we don't further exacerbate inequality and injustice. I urge you to support House Bill 2021 so that Oregon communities are sure to benefit from the transition to clean energy. House Bill 2021 will help us to ensure that the communities in Oregon that are struggling the most from the pandemic and its economic impacts, extreme weather events, and wildfires are the same communities that benefit from clean energy. That is why the Oregon legislature must take action.

We can build a strong, resilient, and clean energy economy in our communities by ensuring that Oregon's 100% Clean Energy Standard includes strong labor standards that ensure clean energy projects hire local, pay the prevailing wage and provide good benefits, and reserve opportunities for apprenticeships; good incentives for community-based energy projects such as solar plus storage that increase energy independence, affordability, and disaster-resilience; and provisions that prioritize benefits and avoid harms to environmental justice communities including BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and people of color), low-income communities, Tribes, and rural and coastal communities.

Please support a strong 100% Clean Energy Standard with good jobs and community-based energy projects for Oregonians. Thank you.

Dineen O'Rourke, Campaign Manager at 350PDX in Portland, OR