

I am testifying in support of HB2021. OSPIRG Students have testified before, but we have some updates about the state's support of this bill. On earth day we hosted a Youth Climate Summit featuring speakers and training to address climate change and renewable energy, and we had over 50 attendees over zoom. It was clear from this hugely successful event and the 1100 petition signatures we've gotten that young people support moving to 100% renewable energy as quickly as possible.

I care about this issue because as a Californian, I have history with the wildfires that have taken place during my lifetime. However, the wildfires in this past summer across southern and central Oregon have proven that climate change is real. Due to these fires, nearly 4,000 Oregonians lost their homes. In addition, BIPOC and low income communities are being disproportionately affected by the air pollution caused by burning fossil fuels. The time to act is now! If Oregon switches to 100% clean electricity, we can join California, Hawai'i, and Washington in making this change to 100% clean electricity. Once Oregon joins, the Pacific Northwest can be the catalyst for environmental change. There is no better time right now to fight for environmental justice and save not only our state, but our planet as well.