

SB 522 OGWC Modernization

Senate Energy and Environment
February 21, 2023

Changes Name of the Commission
from “Oregon Global Warming
Commission” to “Oregon Climate
Action Commission”

Adds 2 New Voting Members to the Commission:

- ▶ One Youth Representative (someone between the ages of 16 and 24)
- ▶ One Member with Significant Experience in Environmental Justice

Adds the Following as Non-Voting Members:

- ▶ The Director of the Department of Land Conservation and Development
- ▶ The Director of the Oregon Health Authority
- ▶ The Director of the Oregon Business Development Department
- ▶ The State Fish and Wildlife Director
- ▶ The Director of the Housing and Community Services Department
- ▶ The Director of the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board

In order to better coordinate efforts to address climate change,

Requires state agencies to report regularly to the Commission on their efforts to make progress toward GHG Emission Reduction Goals and preparations for the effects of climate change.

Modernizes Oregon's Statutory Greenhouse Gas Reduction Goals (via forthcoming amendments)


- ▶ Will establish that it is the policy of the state to pursue action at a level and pace that is consistent with pathways to limit global warming to 1.5°C.
- ▶ Will update Oregon's statutory sector-based greenhouse gas emission reduction goals to reflect the best available science consistent with limiting warming to 1.5°C

Specifically:

- ▶ At least 45 percent below 1990 levels by 2030;
- ▶ At least 70 percent below 1990 levels by 2040;
and
- ▶ At least 95 percent below 1990 levels by 2050.
- ▶ Brings Oregon Into Line with Other West Coast States.

- ▶ Sets additional statutory goals to achieve Net Zero emissions as soon as practicable and not later than 2050;
- ▶ And to achieve and maintain Net Negative Emissions thereafter.
- ▶ Directs the Commission to track and evaluate progress towards these goals consistent with net zero accounting best practices.

- ▶ Directs the OGWC to recommend natural and working lands sequestration goals to the Legislature by January 2025 and provide recommendations for how the state can achieve those goals.
- ▶ The sequestration goals will be separate from and in addition to the state's sector-based emission reduction goals.

- 
- ▶ Calls for periodic updates to Oregon's GHG emission reduction, net zero/net negative, and sequestration goals by directing the Commission to conduct a periodic evaluation of the goals based on the best available science and recommend updated goals to the Legislature as needed based on that evaluation.
 - ▶ At a minimum, an evaluation of this type should be required to be conducted and submitted no later than 18 months after the publication of a global or national climate science assessment.