

To: Chair Marsh, Vice Chairs Levy and Levy and members of the House Committee on Climate, Energy and Environment.

From: Jane Stackhouse

Re: HB 3022 Prohibiting DEQ Rule Making

Date: February 8, 2023

I oppose HB 3022. Over the past few years, I have followed legislation and the rule making process used by Oregon agencies and specifically the Department of Environmental Quality and the Environmental Quality Commission. The division of responsibilities is clear, practical, and functions well. As with Federal and other state governments our elected officials make laws and the administrative branch makes the rules to implement the laws in alignment with the intent of our elected representatives. This ensures practical application of the law.

The legislature set greenhouse gas emissions reductions goals <sup>1</sup> in 2007 with HB 3543.

*SECTION 2. (1) The Legislative Assembly declares that it is the policy of this state to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in Oregon pursuant to the following greenhouse gas emissions reduction goals:*

*(a) By 2010, arrest the growth of Oregon's greenhouse gas emissions and begin to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.*

*(b) By 2020, achieve greenhouse gas levels that are 10 percent below 1990 levels.*

*(c) By 2050, achieve greenhouse gas levels that are at least 75 percent below 1990 levels.*

*(2) The Legislative Assembly declares that it is the policy of this state for state and local governments, businesses, nonprofit organizations and individual residents to prepare for the effects of global warming and by doing so, prevent and reduce the social, economic and environmental effects of global warming.*

*(3) This section does not create any additional regulatory authority for an agency of the executive department as defined in ORS 174.112.*

The Department of Environmental Quality has been working toward these goals at the direction of the legislature. I don't know of any governing body that has the time to micromanage day to day operations. I have closely observed the rule making process used by the Department of Environmental Quality and I am impressed with their fair selection of people to serve on the Rule Advisory Committees, the opportunities they provide for public input, and the careful consideration of that input.

Please let the Department of Environmental Quality and the Environmental Quality Commission continue to do their work to protect the people of Oregon from harmful pollution and environmental hazards. If anything the legislature should update these goals to those needed now – net zero by 2050.

Please do not pass HB 3022 out of this committee.

Jane Stackhouse  
Portland, Oregon

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[https://www.oregonlegislature.gov/bills\\_laws/lawsstatutes/2007orLaw0907.html#:~:text=\(a\)%20By%202010%2C%20arrest,75%20percent%20below%201990%20levels.](https://www.oregonlegislature.gov/bills_laws/lawsstatutes/2007orLaw0907.html#:~:text=(a)%20By%202010%2C%20arrest,75%20percent%20below%201990%20levels.)