

Submitter: Susan Palmiter
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Energy and Environment
Measure: SB522

Thank you for the opportunity to testify today in support of SB 522, which will support continued climate progress in Oregon by strengthening our state greenhouse gas reduction goals and modernizing the Oregon Global Warming Commission (OGWC). In particular, I support updating Oregon's greenhouse gas reduction goals to better reflect the urgency of the climate crisis.

The time is now to improve coordination and provide direction to advance state climate action by increasing representation on and clarifying the role of the Commission in overseeing state climate progress. This is in line with the OGWC recommendation for updating Oregon's statutory climate targets to be 1) consistent with the best available science, and 2) aligned with the high level of climate leadership we are seeing in other jurisdictions. There is no time to waste - rising oceans will hurt our coastal neighbors, drought is hurting our neighbors in Eastern and Southern Oregon, and in Portland we've seen the heat domes and smokey summer. It's happening. It's time to do all we can.

For these reasons, I strongly urge you to support SB 522 with the forthcoming amendment. Thank you for your time.