



March 30, 2023

Joint Subcommittee On Natural Resources  
Oregon State Capitol  
900 Court St. NE  
Salem Oregon 97301  
Re: HB 5018- Support

Dear Co-Chairs Dembrow and Pham and Members of the Committee,

Climate Solutions is a regional non-profit working to accelerate clean energy solutions to the climate crisis. We write in strong support of HB 5018 that would ensure DEQ has the necessary biennial funds it needs to implement essential programs as well as help us meet our climate goals while reducing air pollution and improving the lives of Oregonians.

The devastating climate change impacts seen around the world have been impacting Oregon, affecting frontline communities first and worst. State agencies like DEQ have been working around the clock to conduct rulemaking, and implement programs to ensure that Oregon can catch up with its climate goals and air quality standards. Without a strong budget, DEQ will not be able to implement necessary programs such as the Climate Protection Program, Clean Fuels Program, Clean Truck Rules, and others that will allow us to achieve our climate goals and do our part in trying to sustain a livable future.

We must not stop our work to continue reducing emissions, improving air quality, and ensuring that all Oregonians, especially frontline communities, have the resources needed to adapt to the impacts of climate change. This is why we urge your support for a strong DEQ budget, including:

- POP 110 - Authorizes a permitting fee increase to maintain current service levels in the Title V permitting program and restores 11 full time employees
- POP 112 - Adds a Transportation Manager and aids medium and heavy Duty vehicle charging pilot project
- POP 114 - Supports implementation of the Climate Protection Program and the Clean Fuels Program
- POP 115 - Supports the implementation of the Community Climate Investment program
- POP 140 - Creates needed environmental justice positions
- POP 142 - Creates four positions related to supporting state and federal grant coordination

We hope you support HB 5018 for a climate smart, healthier, and more livable Oregon. Thank you for your time and consideration of our comments.

Sincerely,



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "V Paykar".

Victoria Paykar  
Oregon Transportation Policy Manager | Climate Solutions