

Southern Oregon Climate Action Now

**SOCAN**

Confronting Climate Change

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Co-Chairs Steiner and Sanchez and members of the Joint Committee On Ways and Means:

I write as cofacilitator of Southern Oregon Climate Action Now and organization of over 2,000 Southern Oregonians and friends who are concerned about the climate crisis. For over ten years we have been serving our mission of promoting awareness and understanding about the science of climate change and promoting individual and collective action to address this crisis within the framework of social justice. As rural Oregonians we are on the frontlines in terms of experiencing the rising temperatures, reducing snowpack and water availability, drought, wildfires, extreme weather and flooding that climate change is imposing. We are, therefore, very keen to see Oregon continue to actualize our commitment to undertaking our share towards addressing the crisis through both adaptation and mitigation – involving reducing emissions and sequestering carbon from the atmosphere.

It is in this vein that I submit this follow-up testimony to my previous comments to express our concern that the 2023-2024 biennium budget should prioritize and adequately reflect the commitment our state has made to addressing the climate crisis. The climate crisis constitutes one of the state's major challenges; if we do not address it now, the situation will only deteriorate further.

During the current session many proposals have been introduced that constitute efforts to address the climate problem. Many of these proposals can be seen to establish programs that will allow the state to apply for, and (we hope) obtain federal funds that will allow state agencies to take appropriate steps. Please note, therefore, when considering funding options, which of these constitute investments that will allow access to federal funding and therefore will return huge gains for the state in addressing this crisis.

In particular I urge the Joint Committee on Ways and Means to look favorably on the following proposals:

SB868-871 – the Resilient Buildings package,

SB530 The Natural Climate Solutions Bill,

HB2990 The Community Resilience Hubs Bill,

HB2998 The Healthy Soils Bill,

SB522 Enhancement of the role and capacity of the Oregon Global Warming (Climate Action) Commission while establishing improved goals for greenhouse gas emissions reduction,

HB3196 Establishing rules for and supporting the Climate Investment fund of the Climate Protection Program,

HB3056 Extending the heat pump fund,

HB3133 Promoting multi-modal transit,

HB3229 Relating to fee increases for climate pollution emissions,

HB2571 Establishing a rebate for electric bicycles.

If Oregon is to promote a sustainable lifestyle in all sectors of the economy, among all residents and demographic groups in all corners of the state, addressing the climate crisis should be one of the highest priorities.

Respectfully Submitted

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alan Journet". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with some stylized flourishes.

Alan Journet