



A STRONG VOICE FOR OREGON'S WORKERS

Chair Holvey, Vice Chairs Elmer and Sosa and members of the committee,

My name is Graham Trainor and I am proud to serve as the President of the Oregon AFL-CIO, representing over 300,000 working Oregonians in our state. Thank you for the opportunity to testify today on HB 4080 to make sure offshore wind development in Oregon is done in alignment with our values: Both our values of a community-led and data-driven decision making process, and our values of creating an Oregon where all workers can support themselves and their families through a local and lifetime career pathway.

Dan Hutzenbiler will walk through the details of the bill and the forthcoming amendment, but at its core, HB 4080 simply does two things:

- Establish a directive and plan to do a roadmap on offshore wind in order to make sure any process on evaluating offshore wind in Oregon solicits robust community input to better understand the potential impacts to Oregon.
- And put in place strong labor standards that align with federal directives and previous Oregon bills like HB 2021 on renewable energy projects, HB 3031 on school HVAC infrastructure, and HB 3332 to support Buy America domestic supply chains.

In terms of labor standards, this bill incorporates learnings from last legislative session and ensures either compliance with high-road labor standards like living wages, benefits and workforce diversification goals **or** proof of a workforce benefit agreement of a Project Labor Agreement, Project Harmony Agreement and Buy America Agreement. This empowers developers and contractors some flexibility while ensuring that construction, operations and maintenance and related port workers can support themselves and their families. And in turn, in such a nascent industry, these minimum compliance requirements on pay, benefits and protections also give the workers the assurances they need and developers the ability to plan accordingly if and when these projects come online within the next decade.

On the roadmap, I cannot emphasize enough how important it is that we make it clear that in Oregon, we want a robust and thorough process that includes impacted community members: that means parents who live on the coast, it means Tribal members who have and continue to steward the land, it means the workers who would be doing the jobs, and it means the local fisherman and farm workers who are so critical to the industries that make Oregon unique. As union members, we know what it feels like to be left out of conversations that directly impact us, and we know what it's like to have our jobs outsourced and offshored. And that's why we are also advocating for a roadmap that ensures everyone has a meaningful and considered voice in this conversation.

And finally, to echo Representative Grayber, time is of the essence here with the Federal leasing process in Oregon waters taking place as early as October 2024. We brought this bill to you all during this short session because this is one of very few ways and times for Oregon to make sure we have a voice in the federal process to make sure we make our values clear – please support HB 4080 this session.