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Testimony supporting House Bill 3628

Chair Lively and members of the House Committee on Climate, Energy and Environment:

As I have noted previously, Southern Oregon Climate Action Now is a grassroots climate organization of some 2,000 Southern Oregonians. We are concerned about the climate crisis and seek federal, state and local action to address it. We are rural and coastal Southern Oregonians who live on the frontlines of the warming, reducing snowpack, heatwaves, drought, rising sea level and the increasing wildfire risk that these trends conspire to impose on us. Because of our concern, we pay close attention to efforts nationally, statewide, and locally that impact our collective efforts to address the climate crisis. As our logo above indicates, the focus of SOCAN is to promote action through science

It is becoming increasingly clear that the transmission grid is a weak link in our efforts both to promote renewable energy and electrify our lives to avoid the impact combusting fossil fuels (e.g., Schuetz 2024; Moore 2024; Mirzapour et al. 2024). The problem we have is transmission capacity. While capacity can be enhanced via an array of Grid Enhancing Technologies (e.g., Schuetz 2024; Moore 2024; Mirzapour et al. 2024), it would also be beneficial for the state to stimulate and independent entity charged with “the expansion of electric transmission capacity in this state by financing, developing, constructing, upgrading, owning and operating electric transmission infrastructure” (OLIS 2025).

For the above reasons Southern Oregon Climate Action Now urges support for HB3628.

Respectfully Submitted

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alan R.P. Journet".

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