

Griffin Barbieri

Written Testimony Before the House Climate Energy and Environment Committee

House Bill 2410

2/27/2024

**Chair Lively, Vice chair Gamba and Vice chair Levy and Members of the House Climate, Energy and Environment Committee.**

For the record, my name is Griffin Barbieri, and I appreciate the opportunity to testify in support of HB 2410. I grew up in Portland, OR and am a fresh graduate of Oregon State University with degrees in business administration, music production, and Chinese language and culture.

I am here today as a concerned citizen to encourage support for HB 2410 that provides a narrow exemption from Oregon's restrictions on nuclear energy, specifically, to allow for a small modular reactor (SMR) demonstration project to be sited in Umatilla County. I believe this legislation is critical for Oregon's future.

Nuclear power is a safe and highly efficient means of energy production. Past incidents of meltdowns and similar occurrences have been due to mistakes by untrained workers or by workers knowingly violating safety procedures. In a world quickly being warmed by fossil fuels, nuclear energy is a desperately-needed alternative to stabilize our Earth's climate and prevent loss of productive agricultural land, endangered plants and animals, and our very neighborhoods.

In conclusion, Oregon needs to set an example for the United States by supporting this bill, and a vote for this bill is one step further away from the extinction of our way of life.