

March 6th, 2025

To: Chair Kropf, Vice-chair Chotzen, Vice-Chair Wallan, Members of the Committee,

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BlueGreen Alliance (BGA) is an alliance that works with labor and environmental organizations aimed to address our environmental challenges while creating good quality jobs. BGA is guided by the principle that we can no longer choose between good jobs and a clean and safe environment—that the actions we take to create quality jobs and to protect working people and the environment must go together as we will build a clean, thriving, and fair economy.

BlueGreen Alliance testifies in support of HB 3194 as this bill ensures landowner accountability where those who lease property to unregistered housing providers must take reasonable steps to ensure their tenants are legally registered and compliant with state rules around labor housing registration. This closes a loophole that has allowed negligent landowners to avoid responsibility for extreme worker exploitation.

According to a Georgetown study "Working Against Climate Change: Connecting Labor Rights and Environmental Justice", "**There is a strong link between worker exploitation and environmental degradation**. Public and corporate policies that allow for worker exploitation also have the effects of exacerbating environmental degradation, and vice versa."¹

Further, we believe entities willing to skirt labor laws or environmental laws will subsequently violate other laws; thus it is imperative we protect workers and environment through strengthened compliance and accountability measures. No fair and responsible employer or landowner should have to compete with an unscrupulous employer or landowner.

Respectfully,

Ranfis Giannettino Villatoro BlueGreen Alliance Oregon Senior Policy Manager

¹ "Working against Climate Change: Connecting Labor ..." *Georgetown Law*, www.law.georgetown.edu/environmental-law-review/wp-content/uploads/sites/18/2024/01/Twiss-Note.pdf. Accessed 6 Mar. 2025.