

Submitter: Kate Ferrandino

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3477

Climate change has been harming Oregon during wildfire season every year. Some years, the sky turns sepia, the sun glows red, and we cannot go outside for days or a few weeks because of the smoke. Local green energy infrastructure, electric vehicles, and green public transportation create independence, resilience, and reduces health impacts and therefore health cost burdens of climate change on Oregon. It also helps us invest in our own state instead of spending money on fossil fuels that come from other state.

I use public transportation regularly and more robust green public transportation reduces reliance on fossil fuels and also helps people move around the city and visit my neighborhood (downtown/ the Pearl District) to visit businesses and spend money without worrying about traffic or parking.

With this bill we also have a chance to include our natural resources to store carbon in forests, fields and marshes, recognizing their effectiveness for building our state's climate resilience. It benefits us to be one of the first states to reach net zero and lead the way for other states, both by positioning Oregon as a climate and green infrastructure leader, and showing other states what is possible to help them recognize what they can do to achieve clean and healthy air, water and other climate resilience markers.