

Submitter: Ruth Kaminski
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3477

As a longtime citizen of Oregon who chose to live in this great state, build a business and raise a family here, I am writing in support of HB3477. Since I moved to this beautiful state in 1982, climate induced impacts on the environment have accelerated much faster than expected with devastating consequences, as we saw a few years ago with the Holiday Farm fire here. I love this place I call home, but find myself dreading potential summer/fall heat waves and "fire season" each year.

The science is clear that we must limit the rise in warming to 2.7 degrees (Fahrenheit, 1.5 degrees Celsius). We need new state targets to achieve this goal. As an educator who spent a career doing educational research and teaching teachers the importance of setting reading goals and monitoring student's progress in order to improve reading outcomes for students and schools, I understand the importance of setting goals. As I have said to teachers many times, you need to know where you are, where you are going, and whether or not you are on track to getting there. We don't wait until a student is in fourth grade and cannot read! We need to do the same thing to protect our environment.

We can no longer wait - the time to act is now, for the sake of my children, your children, our children's children and their grandchildren.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in support of this important bill.