

Submitter: Patricia Hine  
On Behalf Of: 350 Eugene  
Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3477

I am a retired Navy Officer, college instructor and active citizen. I support HB3477 on Oregon's Key Target Climate Goals. I applaud the action to update policy to reflect the latest science. The climate emergency is accelerating and exceeding earlier estimates of severity and scale. Updating these goals is very timely.

I am especially encouraged by the incorporation of our state's newly-recognized ability to naturally store and sequester carbon through its forests, fields, marshes, and other natural resources, aspiring to achieve net-zero by 2050 and net-zero-minus thereafter. It is essential that we reform logging practices, particularly in light of the federal government's intention to double and triple logging our national forests above current unsustainable levels. Our national forests contain the majority of the mature and old growth forests left in the U.S. and are the workhorses of carbon sequestration and storage. We don't have to "do" or build or invent anything. We just have to leave them in the ground. We can not survive without mature and old growth forests that provide clean air, water, biodiversity and wildlife habitat.

Please pass the new GHG target dates and emissions reductions levels. We need this now in order to spur strong action. Acting now is more economical than acting later when the damage is done and costs are higher.

Let's usher in the clean and equitable renewable energy economy and put Oregonians to work making our state healthier, safer and less dependent on fossil fuels coming from out of state. Thank you.