

March 12, 2025

House Committee on Climate, Energy, and Environment

Testimony in support of HB 3477

Submitted by Laura Tabor, Climate Action Director

Chair Lively, Vice-Chairs Gamba and Levy, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of HB 3477, which will update our state greenhouse gas reduction goals to match the pace and scale of emissions reductions that the best available science tells us are needed to address the most dangerous climate effects.

As a non-partisan, science-based organization, The Nature Conservancy (TNC) in Oregon works in communities across the state, manages lands and waters in varied ecosystems, and partners with ranchers, farmers, fishers, timber, and environmental interests on some of the most challenging conservation issues facing people and nature. Addressing the climate change crisis is a core component of TNC's work to create a world in which people and nature can thrive.

Oregon was one of the first states to codify emissions reduction goals back in 2007, establishing emission reduction goals for 2010, 2020, and 2050, informed by the best science at the time. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) is an internationally respected body that regularly produces updated climate science and reports which has provided clear data supported by robust modeling and analysis on the level of human-caused emissions reductions required to avoid the worst effects of climate change.¹ This sobering data, in combination with Oregon's own most recent climate assessment,² make a clear case for Oregon updating its greenhouse gas emissions targets.

Ambitious, science-based targets will uphold Oregon's national leadership on climate and align with our neighbors, Washington and California, to show our commitment to climate action. This will not have any immediate effect on the requirements of existing programs and policies – rather, it provides an opportunity to consider, in time and with consideration of economic and other factors, additional initiatives needed to align with new goals.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide supportive testimony and for your leadership in meeting Oregon's climate and energy goals.

¹ [Summary for Policymakers — Global Warming of 1.5 °C](#)

² [OCA7_full.pdf | Powered by Box](#)