

March 12, 2025
House Committee on Climate, Energy and Environment
Oregon State Capitol
900 Court St. NE
Salem Oregon 97301

Re: HB 3477 - SUPPORT

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

My name is Grace Rogers, and I am a student at Willamette University in Salem. I urge you to support HB 3477, a bill to update Oregon's outdated greenhouse gas reduction goals to align with the best available science and our peer states.

As a young person who is now majoring in Environmental Science, I have literally grown up surrounded by increasingly apocalyptic predictions for my future. The climate crisis requires immediate action and failing to update outdated climate goals would be a dangerously ill-informed or neglectful choice.

The state has had climate goals in statute and has had it as a policy of the state to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions since 2007. Since that time, the urgency of the climate crisis has become increasingly stark.

Reducing climate reductions will provide public health and economic co-benefits by improving air quality and health outcomes and by positioning Oregon to be a leader in producing clean energy technologies that the entire world is seeking in the clean energy transition.

The science is clear: without further, immediate government action to immediately reduce emissions across all sectors, global temperatures are likely to hit and surpass a dangerous threshold—1.5 degrees celsius of warming—within the next decade. Yet, despite broad scientific consensus urging immediate climate emissions reductions—and devastating climate impacts affecting the lives and livelihoods of Oregonians across the state—Oregon has not updated its climate goals in 18 years.

HB 3477 will fix that by aligning our state greenhouse gas reduction targets to reflect the best available science consistent with limiting global warming to 1.5 degrees celsius. Specifically, HB 3477 will update Oregon's climate goals, targeting emissions reductions of at least 45% below 1990 levels by 2030, at least 70% by 2040, and at least 95% by 2050. Recognizing Oregon's ability to sequester carbon through its forests, fields, marshes, and other natural resources, the bill adds language establishing a goal for the state to achieve net-zero by 2050 and net-zero-minus thereafter.

For these reasons, **I strongly urge you to support HB 3477.**