

Paul L Evans
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
DISTRICT 20



Joint Committee on Ways & Means
Co-Chair, Public Safety Subcommittee, Joint Committee on Ways & Means
Joint Transportation Committee
House Committee on Emergency Management, General Government, and Veterans

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

January 28, 2025

The Honorable Thuy Tran, Chair
The Honorable Dacia Grayber, Vice-Chair
The Honorable Rick Lewis, Vice-Chair
House Committee on Emergency Management, General Government, and Veterans
Oregon State Capitol
900 Court Street NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

Ref: HB 2200

Chair Tran, Vice-Chairs Grayber and Lewis:

We, the undersigned, support passage of House Bill 2200 (HB 2200). This bill is a focused, responsible, thoughtful strategy forward. It will significantly advance our efforts in moving Oregon closer to a net zero carbon emissions future. We believe this measure reflects a bipartisan, centrist approach to the existential threat that climate change represents. It respects both our fiduciary responsibilities to retirees and beneficiaries even as it sets new requirements for increased reporting to the Oregon Legislature on progress towards an aspirational goal of 2025 for total net carbon impact.

We believe this approach provides the following outcomes. First, HB 2200 provides a strategy and a date certain for evaluation. Second, HB 2200 provides an instrument to communicate interbranch commitment (and expectations) for aggressively pursuing investments in climate positive opportunities. Third, HB 2200 formalizes a reporting protocol for public assessments of progress made. And finally, HB 2200 will formally recognize the exigencies – the urgency – of taking climate change response actions in a manner that will inform all areas of statewide policy, providing needed “cover” for non-profit, private, and public carbon emission reduction initiatives.

In closing, we ask for your support for HB 2200. We ask this, as colleagues keenly aware of the situation we are seeking to navigate. Some boisterous advocates believe this measure is insufficient, and others – perhaps just as boisterous – believe it unnecessary. We know this measure reflects earnest compromise. Accordingly, we know this will help appropriately leverage markets and move us toward a better, healthier people, and place. Together we can reach for our aspirations, together we can make real progress.

Respectfully,

Rep. Paul Evans

Rep. Kenneth Helm

Rep. David Gomberg