

Submitter: Alando Simpson

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Economic Development, Small Business, and Trade

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3246

Testimony in Support of HB 3246

Oregon Legislative Assembly, 2025 Regular Session

Submitted by Alando Simpson, CEO of COR

Chair Nguyen and Members of the Committee,

For the record, my name is Alando Simpson, CEO of COR, a Portland-based certified benefit corporation that has been

in operation for 30 years. At COR, we are not just in the business of waste and recycling—we are in the business of

innovation, economic transformation, and environmental progress. I am here today in strong support of House Bill

3246, a bill that sets the stage for Oregon to lead the nation in industrial symbiosis and circular economy development.

The COR Campus is at the heart of this vision—a waste innovation accelerator where we are actively demonstrating

how industrial symbiosis can turn waste into valuable resources, create high-paying jobs, and slash greenhouse gas

emissions. This bill is more than just policy—it's a bold & necessary step to formalize, scale, and supercharge Oregon's

transition toward a sustainable and resilient economy.

With the implementation of an Industrial Symbiosis Roadmap, HB 3246 will:

Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions – Redirecting waste into productive use reduces emissions and drives more efficient industrial processes.

Create High-Paying Jobs – Fostering new industries that provide family-wage careers in recycling, remanufacturing, and clean technology.

Expand Oregon's Circular Economy – Strengthening collaboration between industries, boosting resource efficiency, and creating economic resilience.

Position Oregon as a National Leader – The COR Campus and similar initiatives will serve as blueprints for policymakers and industry leaders nationwide.

For decades, Oregon has been a trailblazer in environmental leadership—but let's be honest: we have been stagnant in

advancing next-generation solutions at scale. That changes now. By supporting HB 3246, we send a clear message:

Oregon is open & ready for public-private partnerships, and we recognize that

government should act as a catalyst to unlock new markets, foster innovation, and drive systemic change. This is not just theory—it's happening. In 2021, I had the privilege of participating in an industrial symbiosis information exchange with Denmark, organized by the Danish Government, the City of Portland, the Portland Metro Chamber, and the Center for Sustainable Infrastructure. We learned firsthand how industrial symbiosis is a game-changer in decarbonizing processes and building a resilient economy. That knowledge is now in action. In 2025, Portland is set to launch its first-ever Portland Clean Industry Hub a pioneering collaboration between the Portland Metro Chamber, the City of Portland, Portland State University, and Neighbors for Clean Air. As the immediate past Chair of the Portland Metro Chamber Board, I'd like to convey the Chamber's strong support for HB 3246. This initiative, backed by the Portland Clean Energy Fund, is proof that the time for action is now. We have a once-in-a-generation opportunity to lead. Let's not wait for others to show us the way. Let's build the roadmap, create the blueprint, and set the standard for the nation. I urge you to support House Bill 3246 and pave the way for a thriving, sustainable, & prosperous future for our state. Thank you for your time and consideration. I welcome any questions