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Testimony in support of HB3786

Co-chairs Helm and Owens and members of the House Committee on Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water:

I write as cofacilitator of Southern Oregon Climate Action Now, an organization of some 2,000 Southern Oregonians who are concerned about the climate crisis and encourage state action to address it. As rural and coastal Southern Oregonians, we live on the frontlines of the warming, reducing snowpack, heatwaves, drought, sea level rise, and the increasing wildfire risk that these trends conspire to produce. We encourage both climate mitigation and climate adaptation. Because of this, we pay close attention to what is happening in the state legislature in terms of bills that relate to climate action.

We are well aware that the primary contributor to the global warming that is driving the climate chaos we have been experiencing is our extraction, processing and particularly our combustion of fossil fuels. This explains why so much legislation and so many programs target this aspect of our behavior.

We are also aware, as depicted in Figure 1, that global warming is only one 1 of the

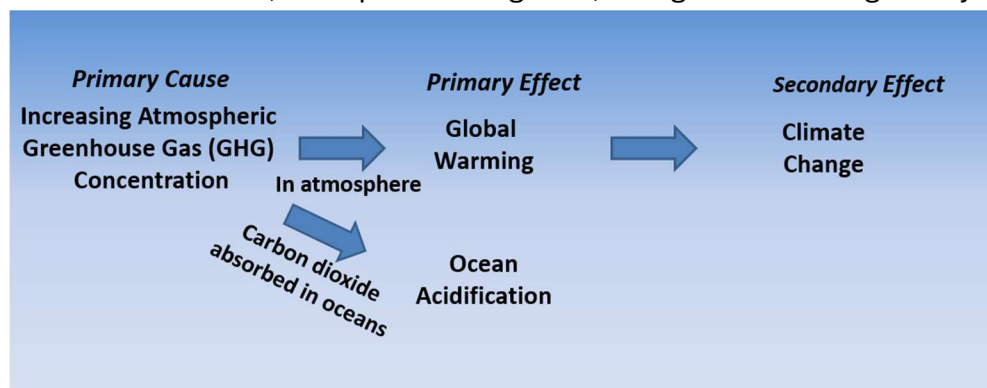


Figure 1. The dual consequences of greenhouse gas (especially Carbon dioxide) emissions are global warming and ocean acidification

troubling consequences of our use of fossil fuels and resultant emissions of carbon dioxide. Since some 30% of the emitted CO₂ is actually absorbed into our oceans, and

once absorbed is converted into carbonic acid, ocean acidification is another disturbing and serious consequence (NOAA 2025). In addition, we are fully cognizant of the impact of global warming on sea level. The latest Oregon Climate Assessment Report (Fleishman

2025) pointed out that during the most recent ice age ocean levels off Oregon's coast were some 425 ft lower than today because water was locked in polar land- and ocean-born ice sheets. In the previous Oregon Climate Assessment Report (Fleishman 2023) suggested that sea level along the Oregon Coast may rise as much as 6 feet by the end of the century absent a concerted effort to address the root causes of the climate crisis. As stated in the Oregon Ocean Acidification and Hypoxia Action Plan (ODFW 2025) "Salmon, halibut, Dungeness crab, razor clams, oysters, pink shrimp, lamprey, and rockfish have supported Oregon's coastal economies for generations. Yet, Oregon's ocean is changing, and each of these species has already shown signs of distress from ocean acidification and hypoxia." Meanwhile, sea level rise (SLR undated) has serious consequences: "Nearshore fisheries and the state's economy rely on important coastal wetlands, which are threatened by coastal erosion and flooding caused by sea level rise. Habitats crucial for salmon and shellfish, for example, can be damaged by warmer waters associated with sea level rise. In addition, higher seas could leave low-lying communities that are inland from estuaries exposed and unprotected from flooding, putting homes and property at danger."

Given the threats posed by these ocean responses to one of the greenhouse gas emissions (CO₂) that drive global warming and this the climate change consequences that warming causes, it makes perfect sense for the Oregon Legislature to support the efforts of the Oregon Ocean Science Trust in their efforts financially to support projects on our coast that address these problems.

For the above reasons, Southern Oregon Climate Action Now urges members of the Senate Committee on Finance and Revenue to support HB3786 in its request to "Appropriates moneys to the Oregon Ocean Science Trust for deposit in the Oregon Ocean Science Fund for the purpose of providing competitive grants. (OLIS 2015). Thus, we suggest the House Committee on Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources and Water recommend 'Do Pass,' for HB3786 and encourage their colleagues in the chamber to vote likewise.

Respectfully Submitted

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Alan Journet". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Alan" and last name "Journet" clearly distinguishable.

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