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March 20, 2025

House Committee on Climate, Energy, and Environment
Oregon State Capitol
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

RE: HB 2960 – Support

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

The Association of Oregon Recyclers (AOR) is a 501(c)6 committed to supporting policies that promote high-quality recycling and composting, thoughtful consumption, and producer responsibility. AOR's diverse membership includes more than 200 businesses, governments, nonprofits and individuals working together on the common goal of achieving a system of sustainable materials management in Oregon. We believe the producers that manufacture and sell products to Oregonians should have a role in how products are managed at the end of their usable life. Equity and community partnerships are also centered in our guiding principles because we believe the reuse, repair and recycling economy should benefit everyone, including communities of color and rural areas. These principles and our drive to serve our communities are why AOR supports HB 2960.

AOR supports sustainable materials management approaches that achieve the best environmental outcomes. In Oregon, materials management industry stakeholders have been working through important implementation details of the Plastic Pollution and Recycling Modernization Act. This has included developing workable definitions for 'responsible recycling end markets'. Through life cycle analysis conducted by the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality, Oregon's materials management industry stakeholders have found that chemical recycling continuously fails to meet our standards for 'responsible' when compared to mechanical recycling systems. In Oregon, we recycle because it benefits our environment and reduces waste. To achieve the greatest benefit from our recycling system we recommend continuing to rely on mechanical recycling technologies. To that end, we believe chemical recycling facilities do not have a role in our state's recycling system

AOR urges your support for HB 2960.

Sincerely,

Joel Schoening
Chair, Association of Oregon Recyclers

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