## +350PDX

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Re: Support HB 3062-3, Planning for Healthy Communities

April 3, 2025

Dear Chair Tran, Vice-Chairs Grayber and Lewis, and Members of the House Committee on Emergency Management, General Government, and Veterans:

We appreciate the opportunity to express support for HB 3062, Planning for Healthy Communities Act, on behalf of 350PDX, a grassroots environmental nonprofit with thousands of members in the Portland area, advocating for climate justice.

Oregon's land use system was created with the primary goal of ensuring that development in our state be done in an organized fashion whilst also protecting the state's environment. The state has tried to balance the two since the inception of this program, but since then, this balance between responsibility and development has often leaned toward development.

This disequilibrium has resulted in environmental harms of all kinds, air pollution, noise pollution, illness, and more. HB 3062-3, responds to this disequilibrium. It forces local governments and in turn warehouse and distribution center applicants, to think about public health risks when it comes to development around sensitive populations such as homes, schools, childcare facilities, and nursing homes.

HB3O62 with the -3 amendment is not perfect. Compared to the original bill, it has narrowed the definition of sensitive uses, removing parks and hospitals. Instead of applying to a broad range of industrial facilities, this bill is limited to warehouses and distribution centers. The -3 amendment also removed the requirement for citizen input from those most affected by a given project prior to project approval. We would like to see the broader definitions of sensitive locations and industrial facilities brought back into this bill, as well as the reinstatement of community input provisions.

It is the state's most vulnerable communities, such as communities of color, low income people, rural communities, and children and elderly folks, who bear the brunt of the negative effects of development in their health and quality of life. These communities are the ones who have to contend with high rates of illness and other repercussions from pollution and climate change.

Although the original bill had much more going for it, the -3 amendment still provides a large step toward protecting our community and, by extension, our state's environment. We urge you to vote yes on this bill, for the sake of those who are pushed to the margins and also for our wonderful state.

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