



April 15, 2025

Joint Committee on Transportation
Oregon State Capitol
900 Court St. NE
Salem Oregon 97301

Re: HB 3088 - SUPPORT

Dear Co-Chairs Gorsek and McLain and Members of the Committee,

Climate Solutions is a regional nonprofit working to accelerate clean energy solutions to the climate crisis. On behalf of our thousands of members statewide, **we urge you to support HB 3088.**

Transportation remains Oregon's largest source of climate pollution. While Oregon has taken important action in the past to reduce emissions from the transportation sector, additional progress is needed to build a clean, just transportation system for all Oregonians. Aviation has been an especially difficult portion of the transportation sector to decarbonize. Flying is one of the most carbon intensive activities on the planet and air miles traveled continue to rise year over year. **We must reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the aviation sector today while also innovating a pathway to a zero-emission aviation sector over time.**

The most promising pathway today to reducing emissions in the aviation sector is to transition fossil jet fuel over to sustainable aviation fuel (SAF). It is made in a similar way to renewable diesel for road vehicles with one extra refining step. SAF can reduce carbon emissions by up to 50 to 80% depending on the feedstocks and processes used to make it. Airlines have made varying commitments to begin transitioning to SAF, with Oregon's largest carrier, Alaska Airlines, leading the way. But much more of the fuel needs to be produced. Oregon has the opportunity to be a leader in this sector while creating jobs and promoting economic opportunities in the process.

HB 3088 is a modest first step for Oregon to take in attempting to address the challenges and opportunities in producing SAF for the aviation sector. It simply creates a task force with support from Oregon State University, to "study ways to further the supply, distribution and competitiveness of sustainable aviation fuel in Oregon." This first step largely follows a similar process that Washington State engaged in over the past few years. They had a task force that made recommendations to the legislature that led to new policies to incentivize the production of SAF in Washington. It is time for Oregon to do the same.

We strongly urge your support on HB 3088 to help move Oregon toward its clean energy future.

Sincerely,

Kurt Ellison
Maritime & Aviation Policy Manager
Climate Solutions