



April 16, 2025

Dear Co-chairs Frederick and Levy and members of the Joint Ways and Means Subcommittee on Natural Resources:

On behalf of the Douglas County Global Warming Coalition, an all-volunteer grassroots organization representing 450 residents in rural Douglas County, we strongly support SB 5520. This bill will provide crucial funding for the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality. It will ensure ongoing funding of Oregon's groundbreaking Climate Protection Program, Clean Fuels Program and other DEQ programs critical to meeting the State's commitment to addressing the impacts of climate change.

As part of this commitment, we strongly support POP's #111 and #170 which will support funding for Oregon's Greenhouse Gas Reporting Program and address Critical Resource Gaps highlighted in a 2024 Secretary of State audit.

With transportation constituting a significant portion of climate pollution in our State, we urge you to prioritize investments in the Oregon Clean Vehicle Rebate Program and Medium and Heavy Duty Electric Vehicle Rebates and Infrastructure Grants.

As a frontline community suffering from the ravages of climate enhanced wildfires, addressing the causes of climate change can mean the difference between having a home and being homeless.

At a time when we saw the year 2024 surpass the 1.5 degree celsius increase target established by scientists - At a time when the Trump Administration has declared a war on efforts to address climate change and indeed have ramped up the burning of dirty fossil fuels - At a time when this Administration has vowed to stop State efforts to develop clean energy and showed no hesitation to disregard Court Orders, it is clear that States like ours are the last line of defense to protect our planet, our health and future generations from the ongoing climate crisis we are facing.

It is, therefore, crucial that DEQ is sufficiently funded to ensure we are part of the commitment to a clean energy future. We strongly urge the passage of SB 5520 to accomplish this goal.

Sincerely,

Stuart Liebowitz on behalf of the Board of the Douglas County Global Warming Coalition.

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