



May 7, 2025,

Chair Fredrick Vice Chair Weber and Members of the Senate Education Committee,

My name is Judy Newman and I am testifying on behalf of the Eugene 4J School Board in favor of HB 3365 A Engrossed which expands and embeds Climate Change Education in our K-12 schools.

Our School Board sets Legislative Priorities every other year and this year we identified the need to increase evidence based curriculum and instruction on climate change in our schools. And to expand our efforts to implement practices that reduce our school district's carbon footprint.

We have heard many times from our 4J students their strong desire and urgency for more comprehensive and robust climate education in their studies and our School Board wants to honor their consistent and compelling advocacy. Afterall, the actions we take today or don't take today will impact THEIR future.

It is not only our youth who advocate for more climate change instruction and actions, it is also our teachers and staff and our community. As school district leaders, focused on preparing our students for the future, we feel it is important to listen to these voices and support this bill.

We understand that timelines and processes are in place at ODE to support updates in curriculum and state standards because change is a normal part of evolving educational priorities and learning systems that allow us to meet today's issues. These changes can be incorporated into this process.

And last but not least, we are keenly aware that school districts work within state, local and federal funding levels and academic guidelines from the Department of Education in support of student learning and teacher professional development. Expanding and deepening climate change curriculum and standards can only succeed if adequate time is allowed and adequate resources are allocated to this work. We support the passage of HB 3365 with the time and resources to actually create and implement it effectively.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this request for deeper and broader education and actions on climate change in our K-12 schools.