



Service Employees  
International Union  
Local 503

Mailing Address:  
P.O. Box 1259  
Salem, OR 97309-1259

3470 Pipebend PI NE  
Salem, OR 97301

525 NE Oregon St.  
Portland, OR 97232

1.844.503.SEIU (7348)

[www.seiu503.org](http://www.seiu503.org)

To: Senate Committee on Finance and Revenue

From: Johnny Earl, President, SEIU Local 503

RE: Support for HB 2081 A

Date: May 19, 2025

---

Chair Meek, Vice-Chair McLane, Members of the Committee:

My name is Johnny Earl, and I am the proud President of Our Union, SEIU Local 503, representing over 72,000 workers across Oregon. These working Oregonians care for families, maintain vital infrastructure, protect public health and safety, and serve communities across every corner of the state. Thank you for the opportunity to express our strong support for HB 2081 A.

The Oregon Public Employee Retirement Fund (OPERF) plays a crucial role in securing the futures of our public sector workers and their families. The performance of this fund affects the well-being of tens of thousands of workers and the communities where they live. As fiduciaries, the Oregon Investment Council (OIC) and the State Treasury must actively and transparently manage all material risks — including those posed by climate change. The future risk of climate change is here with us now. We should take action on these changes now.

Our Union's elected leaders, through our governance body called General Council, have made it clear: Oregon must take meaningful steps to ensure OPERF investments align with a net-zero future while safeguarding long-term financial returns. We've called for regular, transparent Treasury reporting and a robust climate risk management strategy. HB 2081 A reflects these priorities by reinforcing the Treasury's responsibilities and duties, while recognizing the need to balance returns with the growing urgency of climate-related financial risks.

This legislation is fully supported by Oregon labor with our members who participate in the Public Employees Retirement System (PERS), in recognition of the impact it will have not only on public workers' retirements, but on the environmental and economic health of our entire state. As noted in a letter of support for HB 2200 (the early version of this bill) from Representatives Evans, Helm, and Gomberg, this bill represents an "earnest compromise" that moves us toward a stronger, healthier Oregon.

In that spirit, and with Our Union, I urge you to join us in support of HB 2081 A.

Thank you for your consideration.