

In Support of HB 2488-2

To: Chair Marsh, Vice-Chair Brock Smith, Vice-Chair Helm and members of the Committee,

It is significant that the Land Conservation and Development Commission is considering adoption of a new state-wide climate justice planning goal (Goal 20). It is long past time that we consider the effects of climate change on our land and our resources as we plan for our future. In order to be effective HB 2488-2 must include specific measures that reduce Green House Gas emissions, that increase Green House Gas storage and that mitigate the impacts of climate change on all Oregonians – especially our most vulnerable. Disadvantaged groups must have equal opportunity to participate in land use planning and decision-making. HB 2488 must include a means to address inclusion, environmental justice and equity in land use planning and decision making.

Only by considering climate justice and equity in the strongest terms possible will our Land Conservation and Development Commission be able to fulfill its mission of stewarding our land for all Oregonians in the face of our changing climate.

Thank you,
Lynn Merrick
Community Organizer