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House Committee on Climate, Energy, and Environment

Testimony in favor of HB 3166

Submitted by Laura Tabor, Climate Action Director

Members of the House Climate, Energy, and Environment Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of HB 3166.

The Nature Conservancy in Oregon (TNC) is a science-based, non-partisan organization that works in communities around the state, manages lands and waters in varied ecosystems, and partners with tribes, ranchers, farmers, fishers, timber, and environmental interests on some of the most challenging conservation issues facing people and nature. Addressing the climate change crisis is a core component of TNC's work to create a world where people and nature can thrive, and we want to make sure new state and federal funding reaches communities across Oregon.

A successful clean energy transition must go beyond reducing emissions and deliver real value to rural, tribal, and other environmental justice communities. HB 3166 will create the necessary structure and support systems to help Oregonians access the many energy efficiency funding sources available. Experts anticipate we need to reduce energy waste by 40% nationally to decarbonize our economy; HB 3166 will move Oregon this direction while saving people money and making the spaces they live in more resilient and comfortable in extreme weather.

We strongly urge your support of HB 3166 and moving this bill forward.