



NORTHWEST CENTER FOR
ALTERNATIVES TO PESTICIDES

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

On behalf of the Northwest Center for Alternatives to Pesticides (NCAP), I am writing in support of HB 2488-2. HB 2488 will direct local governments to address climate change, achieve environmental justice, and ensure equitable participation of underserved communities in land use decisions.

NCAP values equity, diversity and inclusion within our organization and in the work we do to protect human and environmental health from the impacts of pesticide use. We seek to understand and address historical and current patterns of oppression and racism within our organization and we expect the Oregon government to do the same. Dismantling injustices in our environment and working to overcome them by considering who stands to lose and who benefits in all environmental decisions and actions is crucial to achieving a just transition.

The passing of HB 2488 would ensure that local governments center climate and equity in comprehensive plan updates now and far into the future to continuously address the needs of our most impacted communities. Establishing lasting and impactful change to land use requires commitment, transparency and accountability to all Oregonians, including black, indigenous, Latinx and other communities of color who have traditionally been left out of decision making.

In order to address and overcome environmental injustices and plan for the effects of climate change, we must act in solidarity. By requiring cities and counties to plan for climate change using inclusion and equity as a guiding framework, we all will be better protected. Reaching long-term ecological balance and harmony between people, planet and profit takes ingenuity and persistence in our approach

Thank you House Committee on Energy and the Environment for your consideration on the passage of HB 2488-2.

Sincerely,

Dominica Navarro
Healthy People and Communities Program Manager