



2022 Oregon Legislative Priorities

After the climate extremes that hit Oregon last year, from wildfires and flooding to heat waves and drought—we cannot afford to take a year off from policies that address the root causes of climate change and better prepare our state for its devastating impacts.

Reducing climate pollution

Buildings are the second-largest source of climate pollution after the transportation sector in Oregon. Energy efficient, weatherized buildings are also our first line of defense against climate impacts like smoke, heat waves and ice storms. Cities and counties across Oregon want the choice of adopting the Reach code to ensure new buildings in their jurisdictions that will last 50+ years maximize energy efficiency and its many benefits for decades to come ([click here to download factsheet](#)).

SB 1518	<p>Let Communities Lead on Climate-Friendly Buildings – “Reach code bill” Gives cities and counties the choice to adopt the state’s “Reach Code” as their mandatory building code, ensuring new buildings are being built with stronger energy efficient standards.</p> <p><i>Lead advocates: Climate Solutions, ZERO Coalition, OEC, Environmental Center of Bend, OLCV</i></p>
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Addressing climate resilience and environmental justice

Climate impacts like 2021’s deadly heat wave and wildfires are already harming vulnerable residents and frontline communities first and worst. As we transition to a clean energy economy, our critical priorities are creating good family-wage jobs and economic opportunities across Oregon; addressing longstanding injustices; and ensuring that frontline communities are represented at all decision-making tables, prioritized, and benefit from clean energy investments.

HB 4058	<p>Emergency Heat Relief for Communities Protects communities from extreme heat events by distributing energy efficient air conditioners and electric heat pumps, prioritizing low-income and environmental justice communities.</p> <p><i>Lead advocates: Verde, Community Alliance of Tenants</i></p>
SB 1536	<p>Emergency Heat Relief for Renters Protects renters from extreme heat events by removing barriers to installing air conditioners, providing funding for electric heat pump installation by landlords (prioritizing housing that is affordable), and establishing community cooling centers.</p> <p><i>Lead advocates: Verde, Community Alliance of Tenants</i></p>
HB 4002	<p>Agricultural worker overtime Stops employers from allowing or requiring agricultural workers to work overtime unless workers are compensated for overtime hours worked.</p> <p><i>Lead advocates: PCUN</i></p>

Other legislation supported by Climate Solutions

	<p>Climate budget Ensure the state’s climate efforts are adequately funded to scale up the transition to clean energy and electrification, and equitably invest in communities, including ongoing funding for state agencies for Oregon Climate Action Plan (OCAP) implementation.</p>
HB 4115	<p>Treasury transparency (Divestment) Directs the Oregon Investment Council to publish an annual list of state assets held in investment funds, along with assessments of climate-related financial risk to these assets. <i>Lead advocates: Divest Oregon coalition</i></p>
HB 4059	<p>Labor standards for renewable energy projects – “100% clean fix” Supplements the landmark 100% clean energy law passed in 2021 by adding clarity around the strong labor standards required for renewable energy projects.</p>
HCR 203	<p>Worker protections from climate hazards Declares climate hazards as causing physical, mental, and economic harm to workers; sets forth specific climate-induced circumstances in which work should stop, such as in level 3 wildfire evacuation zones and lays the groundwork to protect worker pay. <i>Lead advocates: PCUN, Oregon Environmental Council</i></p>
HB 4077	<p>Environmental justice for all Establishes a permanent state Environmental Justice Council, and develops an environmental justice mapping tool to help state agencies develop policies and programs that alleviate burdens and yield environmental benefits for vulnerable and highly impacted communities. <i>Lead advocates: Unite Oregon</i></p>
HB 4092	<p>Connecting Oregon for the 21st Century – “Broadband bill” Strengthens broadband infrastructure so more Oregonians can connect to the internet, a necessary component of ensuring an equitable clean energy transition across the state.</p>
HB 4141	<p>Better Fuels Oregon Establishes a timeline for phasing out sales of petroleum diesel for use in motor vehicles.</p>
HB 4052	<p>Racism as a public health crisis Declares racism as a public health crisis in Oregon. Directs the Oregon Health Authority to establish two culturally- and linguistically-specific mobile health units as a pilot program for serving priority populations with histories of poor health or social outcomes. <i>Lead advocates: Oregon Health Equity Taskforce</i></p>
SB 1534	<p>Natural and working lands bill Increases carbon sequestration in natural and working lands and waters, and directs relevant state agencies to develop metrics and monitor progress toward achieving sequestration goals. <i>Lead advocates: Oregon Climate and Agriculture Network, Oregon Wild, Sustainable NW, TNC</i></p>