



OREGON SENATE DEMOCRATS

Salem, Oregon
Oregon State Legislature

PRESS RELEASE

June 26, 2021

CONTACT: Amanda Kraus, 503-986-1074

Amanda.Kraus@oregonlegislature.gov

Senate Democrats Commit to 100% Clean Energy by 2040

SALEM – Senate Democrats passed House Bill 2021 today. The bill, entitled 100% Clean Energy for All, invests in community level renewable energy projects and ensures improved wages and benefits for workers on those projects. The bill also changes Oregon’s Renewable Portfolio Standard to 100% clean energy by 2040. The bill establishes incremental clean energy goals to reach 80% by 2030 and 90% by 2035.

“This common-sense approach to invest in small scale and community-based projects is the right move to protect our environment” said Senator Lee Beyer (D-Springfield), who chairs the Senate Committee on Energy and Environment and co-carried the bill on the Senate Floor. “A substantial and diverse coalition came together and agreed that House Bill 2021 will meet Oregon’s energy needs and take into account rural, low income, coastal communities and BIPOC Oregonians.”

House Bill 2021 invests in training and apprenticeship opportunities for women, BIPOC community members, veterans and disabled Oregonians. The bill includes strong labor standards and benefits for the workers who are tasked with carrying out these renewable projects.

“To address our climate crisis, we need to shift to cleaner and cleaner electricity,” said Senator Michael Dembrow (D-Portland) who also co-carried the bill. House Bill 2021 will serve to enhance Oregon’s resilience and makes targeted, necessary investments as we recover from overlapping and ongoing crises. Supporting workers in the clean energy workforce meets two complementary goals – investing in our clean energy future while promoting job growth.”

Senate Democrats continue to champion efforts to improve clean energy and protect the environment and health of all Oregonians. The original Renewable Portfolio Standard was adopted in 2007. In 2016, the Legislature passed Senate Bill 1547, which increased that standard to 50% renewables by 2040. With House Bill 2021, the Legislature again commits to a substantial investment in the future of Oregon’s environment, its workforce and its economic recovery and resiliency.

House Bill 2021 passed the Oregon State Senate 16-12. The landmark bill now goes to the Governor for her signature.

###