

2021 ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

Beyond Toxics & Eugene/Springfield NAACP

Beyond Toxics and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People Eugene/Springfield – two of Oregon’s leading environmental justice groups – aim to lay a foundation for redressing the climate, environmental and racial justice crises Oregon is facing by supporting the following two pieces of legislation this session:

HB2488: *Equity and Climate in Land Use*

(Introduced by Reps. Power & Helm)

Our statewide land use planning goals lack standards for meaningful and equitable public participation, for achieving environmental justice, and for addressing the impacts of climate change – hindering progress towards land use and development decisions that plan for a just and climate-resilient future for Oregonians.

HB2488, *Equity and Climate in Land Use*, will:

- Direct the Land Conservation and Development Commission to amend and/or create new statewide land use planning goals to promote environmental justice and achieve key climate outcomes;
- Establish by rulemaking interim standards for climate change mitigation and adaptation, and just and equitable public participation.
- Correct outdated and offensive definitions in our existing land use laws by moving away from “minority” identifiers and towards terms that best reflect Oregon’s racial and cultural diversity; and
- Align consideration of environmental justice in Oregon’s land use decisions laws with innovative legislation in other states (e.g. SB1000 in California).

LC1894/2902: *Environmental Justice for Oregon*

(Introduced by Sen. Dembrow & Rep. Power)

The needs of frontline communities must be centered as Oregon addresses the challenge of intensifying climate and environmental impacts in the state. Environmental Justice for Oregon establishes principles and priorities that lays a foundation for achieving environmental justice in the state.

LC1894/2902, *Environmental Justice for Oregon*:

- Recognizes the impacts and disadvantages created by racist and discriminatory practices in the state;
- Asserts the rights of all communities to have access to renewable energy, nonpolluting transportation systems, clean air and water, valued jobs, and healthy living environments that secure resilient futures;
- Demands greater accountability from state agencies to ensure that diversity, equity and inclusion and justice are embedded in their decision-making; and
- Calls for the allocation of state resources to make reparative and innovative investments in Black, Native American, Indigenous, and People of Color communities.

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