

DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF LANE COUNTY

Platform Committee

9/21/2017

RESOLUTION 2017.19

A resolution of the Democratic Party of Lane County

Relating to Clean Energy Jobs

WHEREAS, the DPLC platform obligates us to “Encourage increased efforts to abate climate change and its effects” and to Invest in the development and use of clean and efficient transportation systems; and

WHEREAS, we believe prosperity is compatible with protection of the environment and recognize the benefits provided by sustainably managed forests and rangelands, clean rivers and lakes, healthy air quality, clean and safe drinking water, and a healthy ocean environment; and

WHEREAS, Oregon’s forests sequester a net 35 million metric tons of carbon from the atmosphere each year. That is more than the emissions in Oregon from transportation and power plants combined¹; and

WHEREAS, we recognize that the wealth of our communities and state is created by the effort, knowledge, investments, and skill of workers and business leaders and thus we honor the efforts of workers and the entrepreneurial spirit of small business that provides the bulk of local job growth, and we recognize the benefits of stability provided by larger scale community investment; and

WHEREAS, the clean energy economy employs all kinds of Oregonians -- like construction workers, engineers, designers, manufacturing workers, salespeople, secretaries and custodians,² and most of these jobs need to be done locally and so cannot be outsourced; and

WHEREAS, more than 48,000 Oregonians work in the clean economy producing \$7 billion in

¹ The Surprising emissions from Oregon Forests, http://www.oregonlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2017/09/the_surprising_emissions_from.html#incart_river_home

² Job Opportunities in a Green Economy (Oregon) <https://www.nrdc.org/sites/default/files/oregon.pdf>

goods and services (GDP, 2014),³ and these jobs are growing at an 11% annual rate in Oregon -- faster than state employment as a whole; ⁴ and

WHEREAS, every dollar invested in the clean energy economy creates more than 3-times as many jobs as investment in fossil fuels;⁵ and

WHEREAS, the Oregon legislature adopted climate pollution reduction goals in 2007 (ORS 468A. 205) yet so far, we are not on track to meet those goals and according to DEQ, Oregon's transportation emissions have increased the last two years;⁶ and

WHEREAS, California, Quebec, Ontario, British Columbia (and soon all of Canada) and 9 Northeastern states have pollution pricing systems that work. Since 2001, California's economy (GDP) has grown 28% while it's emissions per person have dropped 18% over the same time period;⁷ and

WHEREAS, the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI)⁸ has created more than 30,000 jobs, \$1.3 billion of economic value in the nine-state region and customers' energy bills were reduced by a total of \$460 million; and

WHEREAS, more than \$9.8 billion has been invested in renewable energy in Oregon, with more than 5,300 jobs created directly⁹ and many thousands of additional jobs supported.

WHEREAS, Oregon funds only 3% of transit operations around the state, compared to the national average of 24%.¹⁰

WHEREAS, Health costs will be \$688 million a year in 2020 and \$1.1 billion in 2040 due to ozone pollution from burning fossil fuels. Costs are based on morbidity, premature mortality, and lost

³ West Coast Clean Economy, 2010-14 <http://delphi.ca/wp-content/uploads/2015/12/PCC-Clean-Economy-Report-FINAL.pdf>

⁴ West Coast Clean Economy, 2010-14 <http://delphi.ca/wp-content/uploads/2015/12/PCC-Clean-Economy-Report-FINAL.pdf>

⁵ Green Growth: A U.S. Program for Controlling Climate Change and Expanding Job Opportunities. [pg 234] <https://www.peri.umass.edu/media/k2/attachments/GreenGrowthReport-PERI-Sept2014.pdf>

⁶ Oregon Greenhouse Gas Inventory, 1990 - 2015: <http://www.deq.state.or.us/aq/climate/docs/ghginventory.pdf>

⁷ [California Air Resources Board](#)

⁸ The Analysis Group, 'The Economic Impacts of the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative on Nine Northeast and Mid-Atlantic States.' <https://www.c2es.org/docUploads/rggi-mou.pdf>

⁹ Renewable Northwest, http://www.rnp.org/sites/default/files/pdfs/OR_FactSheet_2015Oct1.pdf

¹⁰ Transportation For America based on National Transit Database 2010-2012 data

worker productivity.¹¹

WHEREAS, Governor Brown and 33 legislators issued on July 3, 2017 the Clean Energy Jobs Bill (SB 1070) that is designed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and create new jobs in communities across Oregon. Included among those 33 legislators are Lane County Sens. Beyer, Manning, Prozanski, and Roblan and Reps. Barnhart, Fahey, Holvey, Lively, and Nathanson.

THEREFORE THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF LANE COUNTY RESOLVES that

1. We support the Clean Energy Jobs Bill (CEJB - listed as SB1070 in 2017 to be reintroduced in 2018); and
2. We thank our nine Lane County legislators who have chosen to sponsor this legislation and encourage Rep. McKeown to join her Lane County Democratic colleagues and become a sponsor of this legislation; and
3. We encourage local elected officials to join in urging the passage of this measure in 2018.

**Resolved by the Central Committee of the Democratic Party of Lane County,
Assembled in Eugene, Oregon, June 15, 2017**

Signed:

X _____ . X _____ .

Chris Wig

Celine Swenson-Harris

Chair

Secretary

¹¹ *An Overview of Potential Economic Costs to Oregon of a Business-As-Usual Approach to Climate Change*, ECONorthwest, Feb. 2009 http://www.econw.com/media/ap_files/ECONorthwest_Publication_Economic-Costs-of-Climate-Change-Oregon_2009.pdf