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Session Nears Ends Without Passage of Significant Clean Energy Legislation

State leaders make commitment to finish the job in 2019

SALEM, Ore. -- As the 2018 legislative session nears a close in Oregon, no significant clean energy legislation has passed. While it received noteworthy legislative work and public engagement, the [Clean Energy Jobs](#) bill could not overcome the political challenge of a short legislative session.

"It's extremely disappointing that Clean Energy Jobs failed to make it over the finish line but the momentum is undeniable" said **Tera Hurst, Executive Director of Renew Oregon**. "I'm encouraged by Speaker Kotek and Senate President Courtney's strong commitment to the work ahead and finishing next year."

The Renew Oregon coalition lauds the commitment by the leaders of the House and Senate and Governor Kate Brown to finish the legislation in 2019.

"Oregonians have demanded bold action on clean energy and climate protections. Our leaders are stepping up to the challenge, committing to pass a solution next year that will create jobs and save people money, while it cleans the air," said **Hurst**. "Budget items slated for final votes today lay a foundation to keep us on track to implement the program on time. The announcement of a Joint Legislative Committee on Carbon Reduction is a meaningful commitment to finishing the job."

An impressive group of key lawmakers, led by Senator Michael Dembrow and Representative Ken Helm, put in the effort to write and refine the Clean Energy Jobs bill over the long session in 2017, a dozen interim work group meetings with hundreds of stakeholders participating, and multiple hearings in the 2018 session. All of that building on [work dating back more than a decade](#) and on policy introduced in every session since 2015.

"Policies like Clean Energy Jobs are proven to drive innovation, build new clean energy, reduce pollution and create jobs. It will make Oregon a leader in the growing clean energy economy," said **Hurst**.

"We're way short of normal snowpack again this year. If that continues, we're in for a tough summer of drought and wildfire. The urgency couldn't be clearer," said **Hurst**. "We've gone through two sessions in Oregon under the shadow of a federal administration rolling back clean air and climate protections. With the commitments announced by elected leaders, Oregon is on track to enact the Clean Energy Jobs bill on time and take our place as a national leader in responding to the climate crisis."

Oregonians want climate action:

This year, more than 500 Oregonians, from every House and Senate district in the state, traveled to Salem to urge their legislators to pass Clean Energy Jobs. The largest rally and citizen lobby day for climate in state history.

Two dozen students delivered the signatures of 15,000 Oregonians endorsing the Clean Energy Jobs bill to Governor Brown and the House and Senate Majority Offices. More than 830 businesses, 50 nonprofits, 195 farms and ranches, and 130 leaders of faith have signed on to support the campaign for Clean Energy Jobs. Thousands of Oregonians emailed and called their legislators this session alone.

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[Renew Oregon](#) is a clean energy advocacy [coalition](#) of businesses and workers, healthcare professionals and parents, farmers and ranchers, faith and community organizations, and individuals coming together to move our state away from polluting energy to a clean energy economy. We are working to create good-paying jobs for all Oregonians, protect air and water from pollution, and help families stay healthy.