



March 16, 2023

Chair Sollman, Vice Chair Findley and members of the Senate Energy and Environment Committee

My name is Stuart Liebowitz and I am with the Douglas County Global Warming Coalition out of Roseburg. Representing approximately 500 residents in rural Douglas County, we fully support passage of Senate Bill 868.

Recognizing that electrification of our buildings is crucial to addressing the climate crisis, passage of this legislation will ensure that half a million Oregon households reduce their energy consumption through efficient electric heat pumps. This technology serves the dual purpose of not only reducing carbon emissions but also protects Oregonians from climate induced heat waves.

As we have learned, low income and vulnerable Oregonians are most susceptible to the impacts of excessive heat. Promoting this well established energy saving technology will not only protect Oregonians from excessive heat but lower their energy costs as well. It has the crucial and added benefit of helping the State meet its climate goals.

Senate Bill 868 combines the best of environmental stewardship and social justice by protecting our most vulnerable individuals and we strongly urge its passage.

Sincerely,

Stuart Liebowitz on behalf of the Board of the Douglas County Global Warming Coalition

Stuart Liebowitz  
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