



SIERRA CLUB

OREGON CHAPTER

HB 4058 – Air Conditioner and Air Purifier Deployment

Testimony by Terry J. Harris, Sierra Club Oregon Chapter Legislative Committee
House Committee on Environment and Natural Resources - February 2, 2022

The Sierra Club Oregon Chapter submits this **testimony in favor of HB 4058**, a measure that creates a program to distribute air conditioners and air purifiers to vulnerable populations. As the smoke inundation from the 2020 fires and the horrific heat dome experience last summer have proven, a warming climate's deadly consequences will not be limited to faraway places. In future extreme heat and smoke events, we need to be sure that the most vulnerable in our society are not left behind in sweltering and dangerously unhealthy conditions. The modest measures afforded by this legislation are a recognition that we need to do more.

The provisions under this bill are cost-effective and rightly encourage energy efficiency. And although we worry that the emergency is much bigger than this \$5 million program, we appreciate this important move in the right direction. The bill provides genuinely helpful assistance as we make this emergency transition to a new warmer normal. We thank the sponsors and the committee for their important work to bring this bill forward, and we urge a favorable vote.

The Oregon Chapter of the Sierra Club represents some 63,000 members and supporters as the state chapter of the oldest conservation organization in the United States.

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