

February 2, 2022

<b>Mayor Lacey Beaty</b> City of Beaverton
<b>Mayor Brian Hodson</b> City of Canby
<b>Mayor Jeffrey Dalin</b> City of Cornelius
<b>Mayor Gery Schirado</b> City of Durham
<b>Mayor Brian Cooper</b> City of Fairview
<b>Mayor Peter Truax</b> City of Forest Grove
<b>Mayor Tammy Stempel</b> City of Gladstone
<b>Mayor Travis Stovall</b> City of Gresham
<b>Mayor Tom Ellis</b> City of Happy Valley
<b>Mayor Steve Callaway</b> City of Hillsboro
<b>Mayor Jamie Fender</b> City of King City
<b>Mayor Joe Buck</b> City of Lake Oswego
<b>Mayor Mark Hardie</b> City of Maywood Park
<b>Mayor Mark Gamba</b> City of Milwaukie
<b>Mayor Teri Lenahan</b> City of North Plains
<b>Mayor Ted Wheeler</b> City of Portland
<b>Mayor Walt Williams</b> City of Rivergrove
<b>Mayor Keith Mays</b> City of Sherwood
<b>Mayor Jason Snider</b> City of Tigard
<b>Mayor Randy Lauer</b> City of Troutdale
<b>Mayor Frank Bubenik</b> City of Tualatin
<b>Mayor Anne McEnerny-Ogle</b> City of Vancouver (ex officio)
<b>Mayor Jules Walters</b> City of West Linn
<b>Mayor Julie Fitzgerald</b> City of Wilsonville
<b>Mayor Scott Harden</b> City of Wood Village

Senator Kayse Jama, Chair  
Senate Committee on Housing and Development  
Oregon state Legislature

Re: Support for Senate Bill 1536

Dear Chair Jama and Members of the Committee,

The Metropolitan Mayors' Consortium (MMC) represents the mayors of twenty-five cities in the Portland Metro Area, collectively home to over 1.7 million Oregonians. The MMC writes to express its support for SB 1536, which creates programs to bridge equality gaps between tenant accessibility to cooling facilities and appliances.

Heating and cooling insecurities are chronic issues, exacerbated by climate change, and have disproportionately affected low-income Oregonians and communities of color. Oregon's average annual temperature is projected to increase 5° F by 2050 and more than 6° F in summer. Heat and smoke events are increasing in frequency and are detrimental to public health. MMC cities see the impact of the climate crisis when some of their residents are placed in jeopardy because they lack the ability to regulate the temperature in their homes.

SB 1536 takes a critical step towards better protecting vulnerable Oregonians by removing barriers for renters to install cooling technologies and requiring cool, livable spaces in new or recently renovated rental buildings. The bill will also provide funding to help communities establish extreme weather shelters during high-heat events and incentivize landlords to install efficient electric heat pumps. These measures will all benefit people who have historically been marginalized based on their homeownership status.

For these reasons, the mayors of the MMC urge the Committee to support SB 1536. We appreciate the ongoing efforts of the Oregon Legislature to improve quality of life for those who need it most. Thank you for your leadership and your consideration of our testimony.

Sincerely,

The Metropolitan Mayors' Consortium