



March 14, 2023

Dear Legislator,

The undersigned organizations representing labor, builders, public health, business, environmental justice, faith communities, and climate experts from across Oregon

enthusiastically urge your support on the Resilient, Efficient Buildings policy package (SB 868 - 871). This policy package will reduce climate and air pollution, support healthy, affordable, resilient communities, and create family-wage jobs across Oregon.

Oregon's recent winter weather events—with consecutive days of below-freezing temperatures across the state—are yet another reminder of the vital role of homes and buildings in protecting Oregonians against ever-worsening climate impacts. Energy-efficient homes and buildings protect Oregonians against climate impacts by maintaining healthy indoor air quality and temperatures, and save families and businesses money on utility bills by reducing energy waste.

It is vital that Oregon families and businesses are empowered to make needed improvements to increase the resilience, efficiency, and affordability of their homes and buildings. The Resilient, Efficient Buildings legislative package will be key to breaking down barriers and ensuring access to life-saving technologies like efficient heat pumps, and enable families to make important upgrades—like better insulated doors and windows—that help maintain safe and healthy indoor air quality and temperatures.

Energy-efficient buildings are key not only to protecting health, but also to improving affordability. Efficient, all-electric homes and buildings can reduce costs in both construction and operation, saving families and businesses money on utility bills by reducing energy waste. Further, the transition to resilient, efficient buildings provides an opportunity to build on Oregon's existing clean energy economy by supporting local, family-wage jobs that can't be exported out of state.

For all these reasons, we are enthusiastic about the Resilient, Efficient Buildings policy package and the many opportunities it provides. Specifically:

- **Healthy Heating and Cooling for All (SB 868)** will align our energy efficiency programs with our state climate goals, accelerate heat pump deployment, and ramp up other energy efficiency efforts like weatherizing and retrofitting existing homes;
- **Build Smart from the Start (SB 869)** will update Oregon's base building code so that all new buildings are constructed to be more efficient and resilient from the start;
- **Building Performance Standards (SB 870)** will improve the energy efficiency of large, energy-intensive commercial buildings through the adoption of a Building Performance Standard;
- **Smart State Buildings (SB 871)** will help to reduce barriers for public buildings to be made more efficient and healthier.

Together, these policies will support better health, lower costs, less pollution, and safer communities across Oregon. We respectfully urge your support on SB 868 - 871.

Sincerely,

Ashland Climate Collaborative
Beyond Toxics
Breach Collective
Build/Shift Collective
Climate Reality Project (PDX)
Climate Solutions
Community Energy Project
Consolidated Oregon Indivisible Network (COIN)
COIN Climate, Energy, and Environment Team
Douglas County Global Warming Coalition
Earth Advantage
Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon (EMO)
Electrify Corvallis
Electrify Now
Environment Oregon
Environmental Caucus-DPO
Environmental Center, The
Families for Climate
First Unitarian Church, Community for Earth
League of Women Voters (Oregon)
Metro Climate Action Team
New Building Institute
Natural Resources Defense Council
Oregon Business for Climate
Oregon Environmental Council
Oregon Food Bank
Oregon Interfaith Power & Light
Oregon Just Transition Alliance
Oregon League of Conservation Voters
Oregon Nurses Association
Oregon Physicians for Social Responsibility
Oregonizers
Our Climate
PCUN
Res-Intel
RMI
Sierra Club, Oregon Chapter
Spark Northwest
Southern Oregon Climate Action Now
Third Act Oregon Working Group
Tualatin Riverkeepers
Union of Concerned Scientists
Unite Oregon
Verde
ZERO Coalition
350 Eugene
350 Washington County
350 Deschutes
350 PDX
350 Salem