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February 17, 2021

To: House Committee on Energy and Environment; others

**Re: I OPPOSE [HB 2398]...Is China and India going to participate in the "Reach Code?"**

I support "environmental upgrades" in materials and building practices for efficiencies sake. The arguments the "Reach Code" will save the planet appear to be the work product of those mired in a drug-induced stupor.

Here are some issues to consider. Building Codes will be updated every three(3) years and are voluntary.

Training of the building workforce on the implementation and use of new "environmentally friendly" materials is going to be a negative cost increase to building contractors.

The regional acquisition, storage facilities and transportation of building materials used to create energy efficient structures are going to produce Green House Gasses (GHG). Are the aforementioned factored into "saving the planet?" Of course, they are not.

State, County and Municipal Building Inspectors are not going to be synchronized to meet the ongoing onslaught of building code updates. This will cost the taxpayers and the building industry dearly.

As to the "voluntary" nature of **[HB 2398]**, Oregon will soon see "segregated communities; those that can "afford" to "save the planet" and those who will not.

"Affordability of housing" or rather the cost of "government subsidizing of housing" is going to increase. Currently, I do not see any "tax incentives" built into **[HB 2398]**. I do not support "tax incentives." Oregon has too many "give-way-programs" where one "give-way-program" is one too many. Everyone should be paying their fare share of taxes. I'm sick and tired of the cry-babies who use racism as a way to pay taxes.

Lastly, the argument of "energy." If you have "dirty energy" such as "energy" derived from coal fired power plants; you will still have "dirty energy" to power the "environmental friendly building structures."

**[HB2398]** does initiate additional levels of environmental discussions and this is a good thing.

**One good wildfire should cancel out any environmental savings gained by the "Reach Code."**

**Again, is China and India going to participate in the "Reach Code?"**

**Plant more trees and protect Oregon's priceless and irreplaceable farmlands!**

***Respectfully submitted,***

/s/ David S. Wall

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