



# The Climate Reality Project®

## PORTLAND CHAPTER

Chair Marsh, Vice-Chairs Levy and Levy, and committee members, my name is Karen Harrington and I'm speaking in support of HB3166 on behalf of Climate Reality Project, Portland Chapter.

Climate pollution is here and felt by all Oregonians – whether from air and water pollution, extreme heat and drought, wildfires, or erratic and intense storms. Homes have been lost due to the increasing number and intensity of wildfires and lives lost due to extreme heat. My granddaughter was born in June 2021 in Portland and came home in 116 degree heat. Her family was fortunate to have air conditioning and their neighborhood did not lose power. Others were not so fortunate. That extreme heat event was a wakeup call of the need to increase our homes' weatherization, building in resilience to these events.

Homes should be our first line of defense against these climate harms. HB3166 will provide a ONE STOP SHOP for Oregonians to access the federal, state, and potentially local, benefits available to help build that defense. The DOE will be tasked to set up a program detailing the cost savings, rebates, and tax advantages offered to Oregonians to insulate, install sturdier windows and doors, and transition to clean electricity for heating and cooking. Additional benefits will include better health, lower costs, and progress towards a safer climate. And, this will help level the playing field for people with lower income and less free time to access the services they need for a healthier home environment.

In addition to providing an important resource to access multiple benefits from multiple sources, another issue that complicates efforts to build resilience and efficiency in our

homes is finding a qualified contractor for the job. HB3166 may not be the vehicle for that task, but perhaps coordinating HB3166's One Stop Shop with resources on how to find the right contractor for the job would be helpful. For the last year and a half, my home has been under construction as we add an ADU for my mom (expected to qualify as LEED Platinum Certified), and in the main home install rooftop solar with backup battery, efficient electric appliances, and a high efficiency all electric heat, cooling and hot water system. Initially the delays centered around lack of materials and now the major obstacle has been lack of qualified workers for the job (I am encouraged that other bills (SB868) will address workforce issues). My family is fortunate to have the resources to accomplish our goals to reduce emissions and increase efficiency. HB3166 is an important bill to make doing the right thing easier and more affordable.

Now when people ask me how they can personally make a difference, I can send them to the ONE STOP SHOP!

Please vote 'Yes' on HB 3166. Thanks so much for your time.

With Gratitude,

Karen Harrington  
Legislative Committee, Co-Chair  
Climate Reality Project, Portland Chapter

#### About The Climate Reality Project

The Climate Reality Project, Portland Chapter is a local, volunteer-led group affiliated with the international non-profit The Climate Reality Project founded by climate leader and former US Vice President Al Gore, whose mission is to catalyze a global solution to the climate crisis by making urgent action a necessity across every sector of society. With a global movement more than 5 million strong and a grassroots network of trained Climate Reality Leader activists, we're spreading the truth about the climate crisis and building popular support for clean energy solutions.

For more information, visit the Portland Chapter at <https://climaterealitypdx.com/>, and the Climate Reality Project at [www.climaterealityproject.org](http://www.climaterealityproject.org) or on Twitter at @ClimateReality.