

Chair Sollman, Vice-Chair Findley, and members of the committee,

I write in support of SB 869 to ensure that new buildings in Oregon are constructed efficiently in regard to energy use and are more resilient to climate impacts.

Buildings account for a large portion of Oregon's climate-destroying emissions. We can reduce these emissions by making judicious changes to our Building Codes and by aligning with the best of national standards for wise construction. We all know that it is imperative that we rapidly get our greenhouse emissions under control. Since buildings are used for decades, getting the best standards in place now is essential.

This bill will direct the Building Codes Division to set standards that reduce emissions in materials used, in disposal of construction materials, in improving ventilation, and in improving efficiency of new buildings. This bill is a result of the Resilient Efficient Buildings Task Force created in 2022 by Senate Bill 1518. Much work has gone into preparing for this moment. Let's get it done!

I urge your vote for this crucial bill.

Sincerely,

Joseph Stenger MD
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