

Submitter: Anna Lauridsen
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Energy and Environment
Measure: SB868

Dear Chair Sollman; Vice Chair Findley; and members Sen. Golden, Sen. Hayden, and Sen. Lieber of the Senate Energy and Environment Committee,

My name is Anna Lauridsen, and I live in Salem, attending Willamette University. I am writing in support of SB 868 Healthy Heating and Cooling for All.

As a renter in Salem, I have experienced rising costs for gas and electricity during the winter and summer months, especially during extreme heat and cold events. The price at one point doubled from one month to the next when trying to heat an older Salem house during the winter.

As homes and buildings are our first line of defense against climate harms, like the extreme heat and wildfire smoke and are the second largest source of climate pollution in Oregon. We'll gain better health, lower costs, and a safer climate by increasing climate resilience, with more insulation and sturdier windows and doors, and transitioning to clean electricity for heating and cooking. From my experience, if the house I rented was better insulated, I would have saved a significant amount of money heating the house.

Climate change is not slowing down. It is time to put in place better building codes to protect Oregonians and give us a fighting chance to deal with upcoming climate crises.

I urge you to pass SB 868 and the rest of the Building Resilience package in the 2023 legislative session to ensure everyone in Oregon lives in a comfortable, affordable place like they deserve.

Thank you,
Anna Lauridsen