

Submitter: Lisa Buttrey
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Energy and Environment
Measure: SB868

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

My name is Lisa Buttrey and I live in the Siskiyou Mountains. My family has lived off grid in a solar and hydro powered home for 25 years. The home is actually 38 years old. Imagine the amount of fossil fuels saved by our single family dwelling in its 38 years of operation! Additionally the home is built with passive solar construction principles - dead simple approaches such as orienting to the south and using windows to the south with appropriately deep eaves to shade in summer. These principles have been known for many, many decades, and yet we have not integrated them into our building codes.

The status quo has been grossly short-sighted, wasting energy and money both. It is long past time that it be mandatory for all new construction to use the simple features of passive solar design, to use solar-generated power, and to use energy efficiencies like electric heat pumps, induction cook tops, and high quality windows. The Build Smart From The Start bill will at long last turn the codes toward clean and efficient energy as a guiding principle. I urge support for requiring all new commercial and public buildings being held to the highest clean and efficient energy standards possible. In 38 years, we will be so thankful we did it now!

I am very aware of the challenges, including financial, of bringing a home up to high efficiency standards. I strongly support efforts to align various state and federal programs into a One Stop Shop for Oregonians. I would use that tool. I also support updates to ventilation and air filtration standards for indoor air quality across the board. Given ongoing wildfire smoke, we all need safe air spaces.

Please choose to move strongly into a clean energy future to safeguard human, animal, and planetary health.

Lisa Buttrey
Ashland