

Submitter: Amanda Duncan
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 Amanda Duncan, and I live in Beaverton. I am writing to express my strong support for the Resilient, Efficient Buildings Bill Package (SB 868-871).

September 2020 was when the impacts of climate change became very real to me. Forest fires were burning across the state, and air quality had plummeted. I was one of the lucky ones (in reasonably good health, working from home, and living in a house with central air conditioning), and even I was feeling the effects. Many of my fellow Oregonians had it much worse. I feared for the life of a good friend who had COPD and lived in an apartment with no air conditioning. Even with doors and windows closed, the apartment was smoky, and she was having a harder and harder time breathing because of the smoke and the heat. She was scared to go to the hospital, not only because of the pandemic but also because she wasn't sure she would make it to her car or be able to breathe inside the car.

The time to take action to protect Oregonians from climate harms is NOW. The Resilient, Efficient Buildings Bill Package will help both with climate change mitigation and adaptation. Buildings are the 2nd largest source of greenhouse gas emissions in Oregon, and they are vital to protecting our health from extreme heat and wildfire smoke. Passage of this package of bills would lead to better health, lower costs, and less climate pollution.

Please support the Resilient, Efficient Buildings bills. These bills are critical for the future of our state and our quality of life. Thank you for your time.