



2/16/21

House Committee on Energy and Environment
900 Court St. NE, S-411
Salem, Oregon 97301

RE: HB 2398 – SUPPORT

Dear Chair Marsh and members of the committee,

Thank you for your consideration of this joint testimony on behalf of Solar Oregon and the Oregon Solar Energy Industries Association (OSEIA) in support of HB 2398. OSEIA represents all facets of the solar industry in Oregon, and Solar Oregon is a nonprofit that has been educating communities across the state on the value of solar energy for over four decades.

HB 2398 would permit municipalities to adopt the Reach Code and require adherence to the code as a minimum construction standard and method within their jurisdiction. Increasing energy efficiency in building construction helps facilitate the progress toward meeting the statutory greenhouse gas emissions reduction goal for buildings and reaching Oregon's larger emission reduction goals. This bill also allows for further technical advancements in the sustainable building industry to reach and surpass these goals.

In addition, OSEIA and Solar Oregon are working with the Building Codes Division to include improvements to the Solar Ready Code into the Reach code. The version of Solar Ready proposed for the Reach code will fulfill the Governor's Executive Order 17-20. This is good for solar consumers, the solar industry, and the wider electric grid. For these reasons, we ask for your support of HB 2398.

Respectfully,

Angela Crowley-Koch
Executive Director, OSEIA

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Angela Crowley Koch".

OSEIA
PO Box 14927, OR 97293-0927
angela@oseia.org
www.oseia.org

Zach Snyder
Program Manager, Solar Oregon

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Zach Snyder".

Solar Oregon
721 NW 9th Ave #280, Portland OR 97209
zachs@solaroregon.org
www.solaroregon.org