



March 29, 2017

Representative Ken Helm, Chair  
Oregon House Energy & Environment Committee

Representative Helm,

The Home Performance Guild of Oregon (Guild) strongly supports HB 2681. This legislation provides Oregon homeowners with important income tax credits that reduce the cost of high-efficiency systems like heat pumps, water heaters, and furnaces. State tax credits are critical to ensure that manufacturers and distributors continue to offer consumers efficient upgrade options.

The Home Performance Guild of Oregon (Guild) is a 501c6 non-profit trade-association based in Portland , serving all of Oregon. As Oregon's trade association for residential energy efficiency, we are values driven consortium of dedicated, highly qualified companies committed to contributing their considerable experience and insight to policymakers, program developers, and the broader remodeling industry, to help ensure that all Oregonians have access to world-class energy efficiency for their homes. Guild member companies are locally owned and employ local workers, throughout Oregon. These are family wage jobs at all points of a career ladder.

If the Residential Energy Tax Credit program is allowed to expire, convincing homeowners to install efficient systems, versus the least cost options, will become much more difficult. Furthermore, in other states where similar incentive losses occurred, manufacturers have stopped supplying efficient options to our distributors and our distributors have stopped stocking them. Many incentives currently offered by the Energy Trust of Oregon will also be reduced or eliminated as a result. Measure incentives such as those fore: Gas Water Heaters, Gas Furnaces, Air-sourced Ducted Heat Pumps, Ductless Heat Pumps, and Direct Vent Gas Fireplaces.

Since RETC was introduced in 1978, it has proven to be one of Oregon's most enduring and effective programs, providing over 570,000 tax credits that have saved Oregonians over \$172 million on energy-efficient devices such as heat pumps, furnaces, and home solar. And RETC leverages utility sector incentives that provide additional savings that also might be lost if RETC goes away. In short, RETC's benefits far outweigh the cost for Oregonians.

Please support House Bill 2681 to save jobs, protect the environment, and enrich the lives of Oregon families.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "D. MacOdrum". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Don MacOdrum, Executive Director  
**Home Performance Guild of Oregon**  
don@hpguild.org | 503-754-5403