

I write to express the strong opposition of the Northwest Energy Efficiency Council, a nonprofit industry association, to provisions in HB 2017 (transportation bill) that makes changes to the public purpose funds currently dedicated to improving building energy efficiency as managed by the Energy Trust of Oregon. These funds, collected from some but not all Oregon utility ratepayers, have been extremely effective in achieving valuable and cost effective energy savings in buildings occupied by those who pay into the fund. As a result of this work, the Oregon economy and environment are big winners.

This ill-advised language in 2017 would subvert the effectiveness of this effort. While investment in electric vehicle infrastructure has merit, the Oregon Legislature should find an appropriate source for that investment without detracting from the success of the Energy Trust in improving the efficiency of the built environment. NEEC strongly opposes this language. Please remove this provision from the bill as it is further considered by the Legislature.

Stan Price, Executive Director
Northwest Energy Efficiency Council