



February 6, 2018

House Economic and Trade Committee
900 Court Street NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

RE: Support for House Bill 4121, to help Oregon families at all income levels save money, reduce emissions, and create jobs through energy efficiency and solar energy

Dear Members of the Committee:

Enhabit is pleased to provide this unique information in **SUPPORT of HB 4121**.

Enhabit is an Oregon non-profit that has worked with local contractors to help motivate and facilitate over 5,000 Oregon families to retrofit their homes for improved energy efficiency, solar energy systems, affordability, seismic strengthening, health-related improvements and other upgrades.

We know from our work with thousands of customers that incentives and signals are crucial to helping homeowners make choices toward long-term improvements in their homes. The deep energy efficiency improvements made by Enhabit customers typically include investments of \$12,000 to \$15,000 in their homes. Historically, 40% of these projects have been motivated by Oregon's statewide incentive programs. Contractors list these important incentives directly in their proposals to homeowners. With the Residential Energy Tax Credit expiring, these contractors' businesses are at risk – along with hundreds of good local jobs.

HB 4121 not only supports these strategic small businesses in every community throughout the state. It also includes many improvements to ensure these energy savings benefits are available to Oregonians at all income levels.

And there are other powerful co-benefits the state gets from the multiplying impact of these incentives. By unlocking homeowner investments, these residential improvements not only help create local jobs – they also improve the health, value and durability of our housing stock, and ultimately help build more resilient communities. At the same time, homeowners reduce their energy bills, and many see reductions in health-related costs (e.g. asthma costs) due to improved air quality and moisture management in their homes. These benefits result in improved affordability and housing stability for many of Oregon's lower income families.

Enhabit has unique experience working with local contractors to deliver important upgrades for homeowners throughout Oregon. With our broad offering of energy, health and resilience improvements, we often see homeowners start with energy efficiency and solar investments, and those benefits lead them to other important improvements such as bolting their house to its foundation, and mitigating radon risks – all building long-term value, and creating Oregon jobs. And in rural parts of Oregon (outside Energy Trust territory), we see that these incentives are often the only incentives available to spur and help homeowners toward these benefits.

Without HB 4121, these smart, investment-multiplying benefits of energy savings, job creation,

affordability and health enhancements will be lost.

With our first-hand experience and perspective on these industries, Enhabit strongly supports HB 4121.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tim Miller". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "T" and "M".

Tim Miller
CEO, Enhabit