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February 7, 2018

TO: Representative David Gomberg, Chair,
House Committee on Economic Development and Trade
Members, House Committee on Economic Development and Trade

FR: Rikki Seguin, Policy Director, Renewable Northwest

RE: Support of HB 4121

Dear Chair Gomberg:

Renewable Northwest is a regional, non-profit renewable energy advocacy organization based in Oregon, dedicated to the responsible development of renewable energy resources throughout the Pacific Northwest. Our members are a combination of renewable energy businesses and environmental and consumer groups. **We are pleased to support HB 4121.**

The Home Weatherization, Retrofit, and Affordability Program (WRAP) will help to support Oregon's clean energy vision, its energy efficiency goals, and its growing solar industry. Home WRAP builds on a legacy of successful clean energy programs in the state, while adjusting to important lessons learned.

The Program would enable Oregonians to qualify for up to \$4,500 to help pay for home weatherization, energy efficiency upgrades, and solar energy system installations. Grants from the Program can also be applied to a community solar project, which will increase solar access to those Oregonians who cannot put solar on their rooftops.

As of 2017, Oregon has seen over \$1.8 billion in total solar investments made, with over 260 MW of solar installed, including residential, commercial and utility scale applications. HB 4121 would help residential customers be part of the state's clean energy future and achieve their clean energy goals.

These investments mean more than just helping Oregon achieve its clean energy vision. They also provide jobs for solar manufacturers and installers, and contribute a stable source of public revenue to local entities. Oregon's residential solar industry has been notably impacted by the sunset of the Residential Energy Tax Credit, and is at the same time bracing for the effects of new, federal solar tariffs. Home WRAP would help buffer against these impacts to the industry and create stability in the workforce.

As consumer interest in distributed energy generation, and solar energy in particular, continues to rise, **Renewable Northwest is pleased to support HB 4121.** This bill promotes increased consumer access to the benefits of homegrown renewable energy and is an important step towards a resilient and diverse clean energy future.

Sincerely,

Rikki Seguin
Policy Director
Renewable Northwest