

April 2, 2019

House Committee on Energy and the Environment Chair Ken Helm 900 Court St. NE Salem, OR 97301

Dear Chair Helm, Vice-Chairs Schouten and Reschke, and members of the committee,

The Oregon Solar Energy Industries Association (OSEIA) is a trade association founded in 1981 to promote clean, renewable, solar technologies. OSEIA members include businesses, non-profit groups, and other solar industry stakeholders. We provide a unified voice of the solar industry and focus exclusively on the solar value chain; from workforce development to permitting, advocacy, policy, and regulation for manufacturing, residential, commercial, community, and utility scale solar projects on the local, state and regional level.

OSEIA supports HB 3094 to create an incentive program for energy efficiency projects. Improving energy efficiency is one of the most cost-effective ways to conserve energy and reduce climate and air pollution. The bill creates a program more accessible to Oregonians as an incentive program, rather than a tax credit. Energy efficiency is especially important for low-income home owners, who spend a higher percentage of their income on energy than middle and high-income households.

Energy efficiency goes hand in hand with solar; only with maximum energy efficiency measures can solar systems benefit the homeowner to the greatest degree. OSEIA encourages passage of HB 3094 so that all Oregonians can save money with increased energy efficiency.

Angela Crowley-Koch Executive Director Oregon Solar Energy Industries Association (OSEIA)