



March 29, 2019

House Energy & Environment Committee
900 Court Street NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

RE: Support for House Bill 3094, to help low and moderate income Oregon families save money, improve health and stability, and create jobs through energy efficiency retrofits

Dear Members of the Committee:

Enhabit is pleased to provide this unique information in **SUPPORT of HB 3094**.

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, affordability, health-related improvements and other upgrades.

We know from our work with thousands of customers that financial incentives and support is crucial to helping families make choices toward long-term improvements in their homes. Historically, 40% of these projects were motivated by Oregon's statewide incentive programs. Contractors listed these important incentives directly in their proposals to homeowners. With the Residential Energy Tax Credit expired and utility sector support levels dramatically reduced, these contractors' businesses are at risk – along with hundreds of good local jobs.

HB 3094 not only supports small businesses throughout the state. It also ensures these energy savings benefits are available to low and moderate income Oregon families.

And there are other powerful co-benefits the state will get from the multiplying impact of this program. 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, families 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 Oregon's lower income families. Finally, improved health and stability means fewer school and work days missed – a direct impact for families wrestling with day-to-day challenges.

Enhabit has unique experience working with local contractors to deliver important upgrades for homeowners throughout Oregon. In rural parts of Oregon (outside Energy Trust territory), we know programs like HomeWRAP are often the only incentives available to help families toward these benefits.

Without HB 3094, Oregon will fail to capture these smart, investment-multiplying benefits of energy savings, job creation, affordability and health enhancements.

With our first-hand experience and perspective on these industries, Enhabit strongly supports HB 3094.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tim Miller".

Tim Miller, CEO, Enhabit