From the Desk of Senator Michael Dembrow

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Vote Yes on House Bill 2475A

Equitable solutions to help those in need

Oregonians are falling behind on their utility bills and need relief. The legislature must act to allow for flexible rate structures that relieve energy burden and protect all ratepayers long-term from widespread cost increases.

Additionally, financial assistance for community groups will increase participation and elevate different viewpoints in Public Utility Commission regulatory proceedings that historically have not been well-represented.

House Bill 2475A will:

Allow for Rate Structures/Programs to Reduce Energy Burden Give the Public Utility Commission authority to allow utilities to provide rate designs, such as discounts or bill credits, that help reduce energy burden for low-income or other underserved customers. These programs are separate and distinct from other emergency funding energy burdened customers may receive, such as Oregon Energy Assistance Program dollars.

Open the Door for Organizations to Help Shape Regulatory Solutions Provide access to funding for organizations representing the people most impacted by high energy burden so they can participate in regulatory processes in the same manner as other broad customer groups like the Citizens' Utility Board.

