



IBEW 48
 IBEW 89
 IBEW 112
 IBEW 125
 IBEW 280
 IBEW 659
 IBEW 932

**Oregon State Association
 of Electrical Workers**



TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 2062

Date: February 3, 2021

To House Committee on Energy and Environment

Chair Marsh and Members of the Committee:

HB2062 appears to impact which products can be sold and used in Oregon for all consumers including retail, industry, and construction. Historically, the Department of Energy would identify the energy standards in statute that would need to be changed and sit down with interest group to identify any unintended consequence, including supply chain considerations and impacts to small businesses and vendors.

However, this bill bypassed that step and appears to grant new authority to the Director of DOE to prohibit consumer access to certain products. It also appears to establish new areas of regulation and new types of products to regulate by this agency. Without the opportunity to discuss these changes, we do not know whether this bill would duplicate existing regulatory authorities, especially as it relates to construction products such as those already regulated by the gubernatorially appointed state Plumbing Board and state Electrical Board, which are comprised of seasoned experts. Decisions on construction products should be aligned with Oregon's building codes.

We understand the need to align with actions taken in other states generally, but we believe any action Oregon takes should occur after local input through elected legislators, where impacts to small businesses, supply chains and appropriate agency responsibility can be discussed. And we do not understand why these decisions need to be removed from the legislature's purview?

We would prefer the agency have that appropriate policy conversation with affected stakeholders proactively as part of any legislative proposal it intends to submit and that we increase transparency and communication with all affected stakeholders and state agencies. Please ask the agency to convene affected stakeholders, to eliminate from this bill the new authority the agency appears to be seeking, and make sure the Oregon legislature does not cede its authority to another state to make these decisions. If you have any questions about this testimony, please contact Darrell Fuller at 971-388-1786 or darrell@orphpcc.com.

Thank you.