Thank you for the opportunity to testify today, Chair Marsh and Committee members. I'm Debby Garman, and I live in Hillsboro. I've lived in Oregon since the 1970s and I became enormously worried about the unfurling climate catastrophe when I retired from a business and nonprofit administrator career and had more time to look at the daily news around me. I was very encouraged by the Governor's Executive Order action last year, the Oregon Climate Action Plan.

I am proud to be an Oregonian, in part because of Oregon's past environmental leadership such as early adoption of the bottle bill and more. But I've been concerned that Oregon is falling behind in doing our part to achieve key carbon pollution reduction goals. I hope you will pass this Bill, since it is one good step to reverse that trend. It is an important piece of a much larger strategy we must pursue to help Oregonians transition to energy-saving, clean homes and buildings.

I'm concerned that Oregon currently lags behind our West Coast neighbors, Washington and California, in energy efficiency standards for appliances, putting Oregonians at a disadvantage. HB 2062 will update and establish new energy efficiency standards, as designed by the Oregon Department of Energy, for specific products including but not limited to computers, shower heads, faucets, and fluorescent lights. The new standards must maximize energy efficiency to be at least equal to the strongest standards on the West Coast. It's time for Oregon to catch up.

More energy efficient appliances will mean a reduction in climate pollution and energy cost savings for Oregonians who buy new appliances. The Oregon Dept. of Energy has estimated the standards in this bill alone could save Oregon consumers at least $35 million per year by 2025 and more than $100 million per year by 2035. As a consumer living in Oregon, I love that!

Initial ODOE staff analysis found updating and establishing appliance efficiency standards could result in annual reductions of 76,500 metric tons of carbon pollution by 2025, and 132,500 metric tons of carbon pollution by 2035. As a climate concerned Oregonian I LOVE that!

I urge you to waste no time in passing this important legislation – thank you!