

Representative Pam Marsh, Chair House Committee on Energy and Environment Oregon Legislature

Re: Environment Oregon supports House Bill 2398

Chair Marsh and Members of the Committee,

Environment Oregon is a statewide, citizen-based environmental advocacy organization working for clean air, clean water and open space. We support House Bill 2398 because allowing cities and local municipalities to adopt more energy efficient Reach Codes helps move the entire state forward on energy efficiency and climate action.

Building new homes and buildings as efficiently as possible presents a simple avenue for reducing emissions from the building sector as a whole. Adopting Reach Codes that are more efficient than the baseline state code should be an option communities can take if they want to reap the benefits of more energy efficient new buildings, and having more municipalities with more aggressive and energy efficient building codes will help reduce emissions and move the state as a whole forward.

Environment Oregon urges you to pass House Bill 2398 to allow communities to take action themselves for more efficient building codes.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this important issue.

Sincerely, John Ammondson Advocate, Environment Oregon