

February 2, 2022

The Honorable Pam Marsh
Chair, House Committee on Environment and Natural Resources
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

House Bill 4058 – Letter of Support

Dear Chair Marsh,

The undersigned utilities are pleased to support House Bill 4058 with the -2 amendment. Together, we serve customers across Oregon, providing the energy to power their homes and businesses.

With the increased frequency and severity of extreme weather events affecting communities across Oregon in recent years, there has been a disproportionate impact on low-income communities, members of environmental justice communities and the medically vulnerable.

House Bill 4058 will enable the use of and greater access to energy efficient air conditioners and heat pumps and high-quality air filters to improve public health outcomes during extreme weather events and enhance comfortability across the housing spectrum.

In conjunction with other energy burden mitigation measures currently under examination at the Public Utility Commission, such as those directed by House Bill 2475 (2021), the use of more energy efficient heating and cooling options can improve access to lifesaving technologies and reduce energy burden by saving renters and homeowners money on their utility bills.

House Bill 4058 continues the Legislature’s policy work to surface equitable solutions to help those in need. The bill is the product of substantial stakeholder involvement and will allow us to take a critical step toward improving the lives of Oregonians.

