

Testimony in Support of SB1518

Chair Lieber, Vice-Chair Findley, Members of the Senate Energy & Environment Committee,

I am Linda Craig, a retired CPA and business owner in Portland. I'm writing in support of SB 1518, the Reach Code. I have been following the code adoption process for the last two years as an interested citizen who cares about Oregon's effectively reducing GHG emissions from buildings.

I listened to the hearing 2/07, and I don't believe that the opponents had read the bill. It clearly states that the Building Codes Division will adopt the Reach code for Residential and Commercial construction on a three-year cycle along with the respective base code. There will be just one state-wide Reach code, not a patchwork of codes.

The bill is supported by ***Ashland, Beaverton, Bend, Corvallis, Eugene, Hillsboro, Hood River, Lake Oswego, Milwaukie, Multnomah County, Portland, Salem, West Linn along with the League of OR Cities and the Metropolitan Mayors Consortium.*** These local governments represent way more than one-half of the population of Oregon, and they want to MOVE FASTER with energy efficient buildings than the base code allows. The state is thwarting their efforts to meet their climate goals.

In 2021, the process for adopting the Reach code as a minimum was not so clearly laid out with respect to how it would work with the seven governor-appointed boards who advise BCD on code adoption. In SB 1518, it is very clear that the Reach code will be adopted with as much care and attention as the base code. Fears of a haphazard approach to Reach code adoption are not based in the language of the bill.

I urge you to pass SB 1518 out of Senate Energy & Environment Committee with a Do-Pass recommendation.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Linda Craig  
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