

To the Senate Energy and Environment Committee:

I am writing in support of the package of Building Resilience Bills SB868, SB869, SB870 and SB871 scheduled for hearings on March 16th, 2023.

As a person who energy-retrofitted a small, older, single level home in the Willamette Valley, the result of some air-sealing and superinsulation in the attic (for an R-67) along with window upgrades was quite remarkable. My average kwh/day for the January after the retrofit was half of energy use for the same month before the retrofit. The house has no drafts now and is much more uniformly comfortable. If you have questions, or would like to have more details of the process, please contact me by email.

Following the energy retrofit, I replaced gas appliances (furnace and hot water heater) with electric heat pumps and began using an all-electric car exclusively. Rooftop solar panels easily power the house and car, even in Western Oregon. Everyone deserves a comfortable home like mine and dramatically reduced utility costs.

As our climate crisis accelerates, we know there will be more extreme temperatures, storms and other climate disasters. Homes like mine will be better adapted to these events, providing comfortable temperatures inside while they also mitigate climate by eliminating the greenhouse gas emissions caused by burning fossil fuels. I applaud the foresight of our legislators who are proposing these steps toward addressing emissions from buildings in Oregon.

This package of Bills moves Oregon toward a transition to a clean electric economy, while supporting healthy, affordable, resilient communities and family-wage jobs across Oregon.

I urge you to send these Bills to the Senate Floor with a Do Pass recommendation.

Thank you for your consideration.