

Chair Sollman, Vice-Chair Findley, and members of the committee,

I write in support of SB 871 to accelerate efficiency upgrades to our State buildings. Our State government should lead by example with improving energy usage in the buildings we use. Making this commitment will give a much-needed boost to businesses in this sector by increasing demand, resulting in expanding capacity for doing these installations, which will cause wider implementation of these changes throughout Oregon homes and commercial structures.

As we are seeing the climate deteriorating year-by-year, we know we have no time to waste in converting to a low-carbon economy for the good of all. Reducing the use of polluting energy sources will improve our air quality, thereby reducing health disparities and overall medical costs.

This bill stems from the Resilient Efficient Buildings Task Force created in 2022 by Senate Bill 1518. It will be beneficial to us all.

I urge your votes for this important bill.

Sincerely,

Joseph Stenger MD