

Submitter: Jonathan Clark

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Energy and Environment

Measure: SB871

Dear Senator Lieber and Representative Marsh,

Thank you for sponsoring this bill. Heating and cooling produces roughly 20% of all greenhouse gases (GHGs) in the U.S. As the Climate Crisis continues to escalate, more heating and cooling is required. It is a vicious cycle that is exacerbating this worldwide crisis.

Oregon is known as a green, progressive state, but we have been falling behind in the last decade in sustainability. Roughly 80% of our energy still comes from fossil fuels, when the transportation sector is factored in. We also never got good at recycling plastic, which became fully apparent when China stopped receiving our plastic waste. We need to step up our game and start setting an example for other states and other countries. This bill would be a step in the right direction—our public buildings should represent our values in being green and efficient.

We must act quickly to prevent the worst effects of Climate Change. I fully support this bill, and I hope that you will go further in future bills and sponsor a comprehensive Climate Crisis plan to bring all of Oregon's GHGs down to net-zero as soon as possible.