

Submitter: Tara Redfield

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Energy and Environment

Measure: SB868

Chair Sollman, Vice-Chair Findley, and members of the committee, my name is Tara Redfield and I live in Sisters.

I am writing to you today in support of SB 868, 869, 870, and 871. As a sixth generation Oregonian, I care deeply about the future of our beautiful state and believe we should do everything we can to take care of our residents and take a stand against the evolving climate crisis. Oregonians deserve to live and work in sustainable, energy-efficient buildings. We have all seen firsthand, the effects of climate change, especially in our state with the horrific wildfires and endless smoke we have endured. The need to reduce our carbon emissions is urgent.

Buildings, including homes, are a significant source of energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions. Building sustainable, energy-efficient homes is a critical step in reducing our carbon footprint and creating a more sustainable future. Witnessing the devastating harm the wildfires and drought have brought to where I live in Central Oregon, specifically is heartbreaking. The Summer of 2020 was a nightmare, with smoke so thick, we couldn't go outside for 10 days.

I believe that we have a responsibility to take action and do our part to address these challenges. Sustainable, energy-efficient homes can be achieved through a variety of means, including the use of renewable energy sources, the incorporation of energy-efficient materials and technologies, and the design of homes that minimize energy waste. By implementing these strategies, we can significantly reduce the amount of energy needed to heat, cool, and power our homes, resulting in lower energy bills for homeowners and a smaller carbon footprint for our state.

In addition to the environmental benefits, sustainable, energy-efficient homes can also have significant economic benefits. These homes often have higher resale values, lower maintenance costs, and provide a healthier living environment for homeowners. They also help create jobs in the renewable energy and energy-efficient building industries, supporting local economies and reducing our dependence on fossil fuels.

Oregon is already a leader in sustainability and renewable energy. However, there is always more that can be done. By promoting sustainable, energy-efficient homes and buildings, we can build on our state's strengths and help lead the way towards a more sustainable future. I urge you to support this legislation that promotes sustainable, energy-efficient buildings in Oregon. Thank you for your time and

consideration.

Best,  
Tara Redfield  
Sisters