

Submitter: Stephenie Frederick

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment

Measure: HB2990

Date: March 21, 2023 To: House Committee on Climate, Energy and Environment
From: Stephenie Frederick, Chair - Brentwood-Darlington Neighborhood Association, SE Portland
Re: Support for HB 2990 Community Resilience Hubs Dear Chair Marsh, Co-Chairs, and Members of the House Committee on Climate, Energy, and Environment: My name is Stephenie Frederick; I write to you from SE Portland. I am the chair of the Brentwood-Darlington Neighborhood Association, whose board has committed unanimously to climate action on the ground. I support HB 2990's intent to create a grants program through the Office of Resilience and Emergency Management - grants that would go directly to communities to help them build Community Resilience Hubs and networks. I support Community Resilience Hubs because: 1. The oligarchs and corporate monopolies of the world and the national governments they control are failing us. Their hunger for power and wealth is driving human civilization toward worldwide collapse. The IPCC summary released on March 20, 2023, tells us that we have almost no time left to avert unimaginable calamity. 2. We must fight to remove heat-trapping gases from our atmosphere. We must also admit that climate-caused extremes are already harming us: drought, floods, heat domes, ice storms, wildfires, and more. 3. We need to survive the extremes we are already experiencing so we can fight to restore the Eden-like Earth on which our species arose. 4. When climate-driven extremes occur, local government resources are too often overwhelmed. But we residents, we neighbors, we are the resource that is always there. We step up to help one another. 5. We can help one another more forcefully if we are prepared. HB 2990 will give us the resources to be prepared – to create centers of information and resources, and to create local networks of people and institutions (schools, churches, small businesses, clinics) that can be mobilized when disaster strikes. 6. Brentwood-Darlington is fortunate to have a community center that can be refashioned to serve as a resilience hub. Working with Impact NW, we have already prepared a plan for refurbishing our center to be grid-independent and to dispense resources and welcome desperate residents during crisis -- and during calmer times, furnish anti-displacement help that keeps our neighbors from being driven from their homes (a big problem in our diverse and gentrifying area). 7. The adoption of HB 2990 would help us provide essential services to a large swath of SE Portland that has no other buildings or centers that can assume the role of resilience hub. Help us create our hub, and we will build out the vital network. Please approve HB 2990. At this frightening time, we must invest in building stronger communities. We must put in place all over Oregon the resources and connections that enable ordinary people on the ground to help one another during the inevitable disasters headed our way. Sincerely, Stephenie Frederick, Chair Brentwood-

Darlington Neighborhood Association c/o Brentwood-Darlington Community Center
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