

March 21, 2023

Dear Members of the House Committee on Climate, Energy, and Environment,

I am a Native American, long-time activist that wants to see healing and unity brought to our state and world. We must take steps to make this happen.

In the midst of devastation, we need to have an area where people feel safe, warm, and welcome. Where they feel like they could connect and can have their needs met. Where they can recover, rest, rejuvenate from the disaster that has happened. Our community should lean toward building up a hub that will support short-term and long term needs because we don't know the length of a disaster. We need to have multiple accommodations because not one person is the same. People have different needs.

When I think about a thriving a community, I imagine a place where there are:

- Food forest, bee's, chickens
- A place for everyone, all our relatives, corrals for all the bigger relatives, staff having available housing
- Farmers being able to stay at their farms or shelter at the hubs
- Food source growing, all natural medicines
- A therapist
- A place for the unhoused
- Solar panels, wind power, generators
- Wifi
- Big community kitchens
- Community halls, game nights, meetings
- A pond, pollinator garden, bat house for pollination, bug management, and supporting the ecosystem
- Volunteer fire department, doctors
- Walk-in freezers and coolers
- Bikes
- Medical supplies
- Storage for supplies
- Seeds, food sovereignty, food and seed preservation
- Different classes, different duties
- Dome buildings
- Collecting and filtering rain water
- Outdoor and indoor play and recreation
- Life skills, self-love
- Libraries

This is what Building a Better Future is for, for all the communities, where people can go and get away and have this place that will be open to sharing life skills and learning while we are there. To continue with our lives and not be stuck in survival, but instead working to succeed.

If all independent sources, all organizations, come together and work together, we can do so much in our communities.

Please support HB 2990 Community Resilience Hubs. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mama Bear Maria Rainbow Gerolaga

Medford, Oregon