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March 21, 2023

Dear Chair Marsh, Co-Chairs, and Members of the House Committee on Climate, Energy, and Environment,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony in support of HB 2990, Community Resilience Hubs. 350PDX is a grassroots-powered organization that has been supporting and building a movement for climate justice in the Portland region for 10 years. We work to address the root causes of the climate crisis through justice-based solutions by inspiring, training, and mobilizing people to act.

350PDX strongly supports HB 2990 and urges you to vote Yes on this bill. HB 2990 will create a grant program through the Office of Resilience and Emergency Management that will go directly to communities to build and implement Community Resilience Hubs and networks. This bill will invest in building stronger communities, and create the resources and connections to make it easier for Oregonians the next time disaster strikes.

The climate crisis is being felt by Oregonians across the state in too many ways, including wildfires, extreme heat, summer drought, smoke filled skies, and reduced air quality. As we continue to stop the crisis from getting worse by stopping fossil fuel projects and lowering our state's greenhouse gas emissions, it has become clear that we also need to be radically preparing and adapting to these impending crises, and acting proactively to prepare our communities for the disasters and impacts already baked into our climate system. Climate justice now must mean building resilience into our communities so we are prepared to weather these issues together. By creating places to gather and care for each other in good times and bad, we strengthen our bonds and foster close-knit, resilient communities. Stronger communities can make the difference between surviving and thriving.

350PDX is proud to be part of a broad coalition from across Oregon who are eager to see the legislature advance resources and connections to help our communities weather future climate disasters and stay strong together. **Our organization and our members respectfully urge your support on HB 2990.**

Thank you,

Dineen O'Rourke, Campaign Manager, 350PDX