

Submitter: Deborah Chenoweth

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment

Measure: HB2990

As a resident of Hood River County I have seen the importance of partnerships in responding to fires and smoke impacts. In 2020 our congregation, Spirit of Grace partnered with Alas De aguliar Church to support 28 refugees from the fires in Clackamas County. Four families fled their homes so quickly they had only the clothes on their backs. Some of the children didn't even have time to put on shoes. Not knowing where to go they showed up at a Spanish speaking church in Hood River. We were able to provide food, temporary shelter, bedding and basic necessities like shoes, toothbrushes and diapers. The local foodbank provided food and the church provided emotional support to the traumatized children and adults. With the increasing extremes of climate change communities need help preparing for more events like this. I strongly support HB 2990!