

Submitter: Erica Cuesta

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment

Measure: HB2990

Dear Chair Marsh, Co-Chairs Levy and Levy, and Members of the House

March 23, 2023

Committee on Climate, Energy, and Environment:

As a resident of the city of Portland for 18 years, and starting my volunteer training with NET, I am pleased to give my testimony of how important NET is for my city and for the most vulnerable communities like the Latinxs community. I am learning the importance of being prepared and continuing to count on the resources of this support and resilience network for disasters as we have seen and experienced in recent years. Programs like NET are very important to continue training and create these spaces where affected communities are welcome and improve their quality of life in the face of environmental impact. We need more resources for preparation, program training in case of disasters or natural impacts in the Spanish language. But NET's work is extraordinary. I come from Mexico City where for years we have been preparing specifically for earthquakes and I see that various efforts by BEECN have been made here that the community is prepared and trained to help before and during natural impacts.

I am pleased to support HB 2990, to continue training to respond to disasters and natural impacts in an efficient, empathetic, resilient and compassionate manner in the most vulnerable communities such as Latinxs who live in Portland and metropolitan areas.

I appreciate your time and thank you for considering this perspective.

Sincerely,

Erica Cuesta.