



To: House Committee on Climate, Energy and Environment  
RE: Support of HB 2990

Chair Marsh, Vice Chairs Levy, and members of the committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of HB 2990 to invest in the creation of community resilience hubs and networks in Oregon. My name is Sol Mora and I am the Advocacy Director at the Coalition of Communities of Color (CCC), an alliance of culturally specific community-based organizations dedicated to cross-cultural collective action for racial justice.

As the climate crisis continues to worsen across the world and across our beloved home of Oregon, our families, children, and communities are experiencing more frequent extreme weather events, disruptions, and emergencies that affect their livelihoods. Such extreme weather events range from excessive heat to record-breaking snow storms, and additionally are interconnected to environmental phenomena like wildfires, droughts, and more.

While all Oregonians are affected by the climate crisis, it is crucial that we analyze how specific communities are disproportionately facing the brunt of these impacts due to social factors like where they live, what their income level is, whether they can access available resources, and more. CCC strives to address institutional racism and economic disparities within our local and state systems and create viable pathways for communities of color, immigrants, and refugees to obtain self-determination, justice, and access to opportunities. Through our work, we have seen firsthand that communities of color, immigrants, refugees, and lower-income Oregonians are disproportionately and negatively impacted by the worsening climate.

It is crucial that our state is readily prepared to help mitigate the impacts of climate change and additionally help the communities most impacted recover after a disaster does occur. CCC supports HB 2990 because it will create a grant program through the Office of Resilience and Emergency Management that directly supports communities in building and implementing community resilience hubs and networks to ensure that community members are well informed about how to best be prepared for climate disruptions and have access to resources during these disruptions. Community hubs and networks help to foster and nourish positive relationships and trust within communities, which is especially important for people of color, immigrants, and refugees who may feel the most comfortable accessing information and services from a community based location.

On behalf of CCC, we ask that you advance HB 2990 to ensure Oregonians from every part of our state have access to community resilience hubs and networks to improve their wellbeing. Thank you for your consideration of this legislation.

Sol Mora  
Advocacy Director