

Ref: House Bill 2990

Chair Marsh and Members of the House Committee on Climate ,Energy and Environment

Good afternoon,

I am writing in support of proposal HD 2990.

I have been an Oregon resident for over 20 years and we are in desperate need of a place to turn as a family and community. A safe place that provides us with protection, tranquility and shelter, in order to have a bit of peace of mind and a safe place of shelter, from natural or unnatural disasters.

Unfortunately for the Latino community it is more difficult to ask for help or have information about resource because many people out of fear for not having an immigration status., Many of them believe that they will be asked for personal information that could harm them. We need reliable and safe support networks in our community, that have the resources to make us feel that we are in a safe place with our neighbors, friends and above all our family, that we have that meeting point with the things that matter to us. They will give support and emotional help in a catastrophe.

During the fire in 2020, the resources were available but there was no meeting place for people who were losing their homes, children, adults with disabilities and pets. We needed meeting places with the necessary and essential resources during a tragedy.

We need places adapted for people with medical problems or ramps for people who use wheelchairs, resilience centers equipped for all people's needs. If we have the opportunity to be able to take action in time, and implement safe places, before another disaster in Oregon arrives. Now is the time to take action.

Thank you very much for your attention and I ask for your support for the proposal of HB 2990 that is necessary for the Resilience Centers in Oregon.

Alma,

Member of the Tigard, Oregon community.