

Submitter: Brian Ettling
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means
Measure: SB5506

Below is the written text of my oral testimony that I gave at the April 8th Joint Ways and Means Committee Hearing in Portland, Oregon at the Sylvania Campus of Portland Community College:

Members of the committee.

My name is Brian Ettling. My wife Tanya and I live in northeast Portland. While living here for the past 6 years, we experienced the extreme weather, such as heat domes in the summer, extreme smoke making it hard to breath, and even extreme cold temperatures in the winter.

Because of climate change, scientists tell us the extreme weather in Oregon is getting worse. This extreme weather adversely impacts all Oregonians, but especially seniors, children, low income, BIPOC communities, and rural communities.

Thus, I urge you to fund and support these bills help Oregonians become more energy efficient, improve our buildings resilience, and naturally drawdown the greenhouse gas pollution:

First, please support and fund SB 530 the Natural Climate Solutions Bill. It allows financial incentives for voluntarily managing Oregon's farms, forests, ranches, and natural lands for carbon sequestration.

Second, please support and fund the Building Resilience Senate Bills 868, 869, 870, and 871. These bills align energy efficiency programs and building codes with state climate goals for rapid deployment of heat pumps, weatherization, and building retrofits for Oregonians. Even more, these bills will improve energy efficiency of existing large commercial buildings and state government buildings, including schools.

I am here today asking to make sure that Oregon doesn't miss the historic opportunity of billions of dollars in federal investments for individuals, state and local government, and the private sector from the Inflation Reduction Act.

These bills fight climate change while creating local clean energy jobs that can't be exported and strengthens our economy. Now it's time to get some help from the federal government.

Thank you for your time.