

**Testimony to House Committee on Emergency Management, General Government, and Veterans
Support HB 2151 – Seismic Risk Mitigation Fund**

February 27, 2025

Dear Chair Tran, Vice-Chairs Grayber and Lewis, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Dr. Daniel Frye, I organize with MCAT (Mobilizing Climate Action Together), a community of volunteers working to advance a healthy climate and a successful green economy for future generations.

My family and I live in North and Northeast Portland and we would be profoundly negatively affected by a collapse of the Critical Energy Infrastructure (CEI) Hub.

I am writing today in strong support of HB 2151, expanding the use cases of the Seismic Risk Mitigation Fund. This bill builds on the Fuel Tank Seismic Stability Program established by SB 1567 in 2022. The Fund expansion includes:

- Receiving funds from the federal government;
- Providing financial assistance for planning and preparedness efforts related to fires;
- Providing financial assistance for emergency response and evacuation route planning;
- Expanding preparedness planning support to include private and public sector groups and individuals;
- Supporting the Oregon Department of Emergency Management to provide early detection and alerts related to earthquakes.

Each of these are valid and practical uses of the Seismic Risk Mitigation Fund. Of particular importance is the focus on advance preparation such as evacuation route planning. Much work remains to provide citizens who live and work near the CEI-Hub with safe evacuation routes that will remain open to vehicular traffic in the wake of a severe earthquake. Those citizens need your help.

I urge support for HB 2151 by the Committee, noting that it does not require incremental funding.

Sincerely,

Daniel D. Frye, PhD
MCAT (Mobilizing Climate Action Together)