

Submitter: Linda Ganzini  
On Behalf Of: Electrify Oregon  
Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4080  
  
Electrify Oregon  
Bend, OR  
Linda Ganzini, Co-Executive Director

House Committee on Climate, Energy, and the Environment  
February 6, 2026

Dear Chair Lively, Vice-Chairs Gamba and Levy, and Members of the Committee,

I am writing in strong support of HB 4080, which enables the safe deployment of small, plug-in “balcony solar” photovoltaic systems (=1.2 kW) in Oregon once nationally recognized safety standards are met.

I submit this testimony as a representative of Electrify Oregon. Electrify Oregon is a statewide collaboration of over 20 organizations whose mission is to educate and inspire friends, neighbors, and community members across Oregon to electrify their homes and vehicles. We also support practical, equitable solutions that expand access to clean energy while maintaining safety and consumer protections.

Our organization recognizes the safety and technical concerns raised in opposition testimony, and we respectfully counter with the following clarifications and benefits.

#### Economic & Grid Benefits

? Balcony solar has needed grid benefits. It increases access to clean energy and reduces peak load pressure on the grid. This in turn lowers costs because we can get more use out of the grid that ratepayers already paid for. This technology expands energy choices.

#### Equity and Access

? Over one third of Oregon households are renters, most of whom cannot install rooftop solar.

? Over half of these renters are cost-burdened, with utility costs being a key contributor.

? Balcony solar provides low-cost, fast-payback clean energy allowing renters to directly reduce energy bills while contributing to a cleaner grid.

? Wider scale adoption of this technology will lead to price drops, as we have seen with other technologies and other home appliances, leading to a faster payback.

Failing to allow these systems continues to deny renters access to affordable renewable energy, exacerbating energy inequities. The average household can save 8 - 15 percent on their energy bill, this is a meaningful savings for an energy burdened household.

### Process & Regulatory Safeguards

HB 4080 has a responsible, regulatory-forward approach:

- ? Systems must be UL-listed and installed per NEC standards.
- ? Oregon code will be updated to address plug-in solar, ensuring oversight and safety.
- ? By codifying the framework now, Oregon provides clarity for manufacturers, installers, and consumers, while enabling rapid deployment in alignment with established safety standards.
- ? These safeguards substantially reduce the risks of fire, shocks and backfeeding cited by opponents to no more than many other common household appliances.
- ? Failure to approve this approach risks potentially less safe unsanctioned system installation as this product becomes more available in neighboring states.

In summary, HB 4080 represents a safe, low-cost, equitable and needed expansion of renewable energy access in Oregon. By leveraging UL certification, NEC standards, and Oregon-specific code, we can deploy these systems without compromising safety or emergency response.

Thank you for your work in advancing renewable energy for all Oregonians.

Sincerely,

Linda Ganzini  
Co-Executive Director,  
Electrify Oregon