



UNITED ASSOCIATION

of Journeymen and Apprentices of the
Plumbing and Pipe Fitting Industry of
the United States and Canada

Founded 1889

Letters should
be confined to
one subject

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Subject: HB 4046

Chair Lively, Vice Chairs Gamba and Levy, and Members of the House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment:

For the record, my name is Brad Archuleta, and I am here on behalf of UA Local 290 and Oregon's building trades in support of HB 4046. As a business agent for Local 290, I represent over 5000 plumbers and steamfitters throughout Oregon, SW Washington, and NW California. I have served in the trade for over 35 years and have worked on some of the most critical piping systems in the U.S. My dad was also in the trade, I was raised on nuclear money as he worked in almost every nuclear facility on the west coast and several back east.

HB 4046 is a responsible, fact-based bill about planning Oregon's future, not construction. It does not authorize or build a nuclear facility. It also will **not** have a general fund.

For the building trades, this bill is about preparation and workforce readiness. Large-scale energy infrastructure depends on skilled union labor.

Advanced nuclear facilities require electricians, pipefitters, welders, ironworkers, sheet metal workers, operating engineers, laborers, and long-term maintenance crews.

These are high-skill, family-wage careers supported by registered apprenticeships, not short-term or gig-style jobs.

Reliable baseload power is also critical to protecting industrial jobs across Oregon. Manufacturing and fabrication facilities cannot operate on intermittent energy alone.

This study will help prepare industrial employers and the union jobs they support here in Oregon.

HB 4046 also recognizes that Oregon cannot afford to wait. Electricity demand is projected to nearly double by 2050, and major energy projects take years to plan.

Other states are already studying or deploying advanced nuclear technologies. If Oregon does not begin this work now, we risk falling behind and losing future economic opportunities.

Early planning allows labor to be part of the conversation from the start. Workforce analysis helps ensure strong labor standards, including prevailing wages, registered apprenticeships, local hire, and project labor agreements, so these projects are built right from day one.

Finally, safety, health, and environmental impacts are central to this study, and advanced technologies must be evaluated using modern standards.

HB 4046 supports an all-of-the-above energy strategy that protects workers and prepares Oregon for the future. I respectfully urge your support.

Thank you for hearing my testimony today in support of HB 4046.

With respect, and in solidarity,

Brad Archuleta
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