

June 2, 2017



Co-Chairs Hass and Barnhart, Members of the Committee  
Joint Committee on Tax Credits  
900 Court Street NE, Room 354  
Salem, Oregon 97301

**RE: Support for House Bill 2681, extending and amending tax credit incentives for Oregonians to invest in residential energy efficiency improvements and solar energy systems**

Dear Co-Chairs Hass and Barnhart and Members of the Committee:

The Home Performance Guild of Oregon (Guild) strongly supports HB 2681. This legislation provides Oregon homeowners - in all corners of the state - with important income tax credits that reduce the cost of high-efficiency systems like heat pumps, water heaters, and furnaces. State tax credits are critical to ensure that manufacturers and distributors continue to offer consumers efficient upgrade options.

The Guild is a 501c6 non-profit trade-association based in Portland , serving all of Oregon. As Oregon's trade association for residential energy efficiency, we are values driven consortium of dedicated, highly qualified companies committed to contributing their considerable experience and insight to policymakers, program developers, and the broader remodeling industry, to help ensure that all Oregonians have access to world-class energy efficiency for their homes. Guild member companies are locally owned and employ local workers, throughout Oregon. These are family wage jobs at all points of a career ladder.

Since 1978, RETC has provided Oregon families with over 570,000 tax credits to help them enjoy warmer, safer homes and become more energy efficient. As a result, energy efficiency has fueled hundreds of businesses that support more than 41,000 Oregon jobs. Energy efficiency also reduces pollution and greenhouse gas emissions by saving Oregonians more than 2 million kilowatt hours of electricity annually. And the money we save on our electric bills goes right back into Oregon's economy.

In other states where similar incentive losses occurred, manufacturers have stopped supplying efficient options to our distributors and our distributors have stopped stocking them. Additionally, any incentives currently offered by the Energy Trust of Oregon will be reduced or eliminated as a result - incentives such as: gas water heaters, gas furnaces, air-sourced ducted heat pumps, ductless heat pumps, and direct vent gas fireplaces. In short, RETC's benefits far outweigh the cost for Oregonians.

Please support House Bill 2681 to save jobs, protect the environment, and enrich the lives of Oregon families.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "D. MacOdrum".

Don MacOdrum, Executive Director  
**Home Performance Guild of Oregon**  
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