

Neil Baungard <neil@theenergychallenge.org>

Dear House Energy and Environment Committee,

This is a letter in support on HB 2618 which would reinstate a state incentive for rooftop solar. As a local resource for community members interested in reducing their impact and energy footprint we see this rebate as an important factor in homeowners decision to go solar.

We are excited to see this bill as an improved version of the earlier RETC by being more accessible to low and moderate income households. We have helped advise homeowners throughout Deschutes and Crook county and two of the barriers for low to moderate income households were waiting until tax season for a tax credit or not having a large enough tax liability to be able to afford solar. The structure of this inactive will be more accessible for LMI households by being structured as a rebate which we fully support.

Solar is an important step in improving our energy future in Oregon and we strongly support HB 2618 as a necessary step to get to our clean energy future.

-

Neil Baungard

Program Manager, The Environmental Center

The Environmental Center

16 NW Kansas Ave | Bend, OR 97703

direct: 541.385.6908 x 12 | mobile: 425.765.2602

neil@theenergychallenge.org | www.envirocenter.org | www.theenergychallenge.org