



OREGON
ASSOCIATION
OF REALTORS®

April 2, 2019

House Committee on Energy and Environment
900 Court St. NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

RE: Support House Bill 3408

Dear Chair Helm and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of House Bill 3408. The Oregon Association of REALTORS® is one of Oregon's largest trade associations, representing more than 17,000 members involved in all aspects of the real estate profession. Our members include both residential and commercial brokers, managing principal brokers, property managers, and industry affiliates.

House Bill 3408 would appropriate money from the General Fund to the Department of Environmental Quality to deposit into the Residential Solid Fuel Heating Air Quality Improvement Fund, helping to promote a critical program. Woodstove smoke is a significant source of fine particulate and toxic air pollution in Oregon, often jeopardizing public health and putting communities at risk of violating federal air quality standards.

The smoke produced by uncertified solid-fuel (and especially wood) burning appliances can reduce visibility, affect human health, and damage crops, property and the environment. Certified wood stoves reduce fine particulate emissions by 70%. The Residential Solid Fuel Heating Air Quality Improvement Fund enables the ability to offer and issue rebates, grants, loans, and other subsidies, too help pay for compliance and therefore reduce emissions.

We urge your support of HB 3408 to support this important program.

Thank you,

Shawn Cleave
Director of Government Affairs
Oregon Association of REALTORS®