



**NW Energy Coalition**  
for a clean and affordable energy future

House Committee on Housing  
Oregon State Capitol  
900 Court St. NE  
Salem, Oregon 97301

February 10, 2021

Dear Chair Fahey, Vice-Chairs Campos and Morgan, and Members of the Committee,

I write to you today on behalf of NW Energy Coalition, the Pacific Northwest's broadest alliance of utilities, businesses, advocates and communities who are interested in advancing clean, reliable, affordable, equitable energy policy across the Pacific Northwest. We write today in support of HB 2842, the Healthy Homes bill.

We are among the region's strongest advocates for energy efficiency, from the national level to the state and local level. Our expertise has shown us that energy efficiency is a triple-win for pocketbooks, health, and the environment. Unfortunately, large swaths of energy efficiency and weatherization measures often remain unattained by the utility sector, and thus inaccessible to communities who most need these benefits.

HB 2842 creates needed funding and structure to acquire energy efficiency and support families living in old and inefficient housing in our state. Not only does this funding pay back in energy and environmental benefits, but by placing this program within the Oregon Health Authority, also underscores the health benefits of increased efficiency. The intensity of wildfires, covid-19, and recession during the past year have illustrated the present and visceral need to better allocate resources before disasters occur to protect our health, particularly that of the most vulnerable Oregonians.

We urge you to support HB 2842, a needed investment addressing the root of so many crises this year.

Sincerely,

Heather Moline  
Policy Associate  
NW Energy Coalition