

I am wholeheartedly in favor of this bill for many reasons. We are experiencing a climate crisis, as you know, and passage of this bill would help elevate energy efficiency as well as providing jobs and reducing energy costs. This would also reduce respiratory disease, asthma and others, since these retrofits would help to eliminate particulate pollutants from smoke and air pollution, and improve the inside environment. This would also reduce burdens on healthcare systems.

Home energy retrofits can be expensive, and renters often don't have a say in home upgrades. HB 2842 would make grants available to local governments, including tribal governments, housing authorities, nonprofits, and community groups so that low-income homeowners and renters alike receive the many health benefits of a well-insulated home. Improving home energy efficiency is also a vital way to reduce Oregon's dependence on fossil fuels and help our transition to 100 percent renewable energy.

Thank you for working for a better future for all.