

# MMC

## Metropolitan Mayors’ Consortium

- Mayor Lacey Beaty**  
City of Beaverton
- Mayor Brian Hodson**  
City of Canby
- Mayor Jeffrey Dalin**  
City of Cornelius
- Mayor Gery Schirado**  
City of Durham
- Mayor Brian Cooper**  
City of Fairview
- Mayor Peter Truax**  
City of Forest Grove
- Mayor Tammy Stempel**  
City of Gladstone
- Mayor Travis Stovall**  
City of Gresham
- Mayor Tom Ellis**  
City of Happy Valley
- Mayor Steve Callaway**  
City of Hillsboro
- Mayor Ken Gibson**  
City of King City
- Mayor Joe Buck**  
City of Lake Oswego
- Mayor Mark Hardie**  
City of Maywood Park
- Mayor Mark Gamba**  
City of Milwaukie
- Mayor Teri Lenahan**  
City of North Plains
- Mayor Ted Wheeler**  
City of Portland
- Mayor Walt Williams**  
City of Rivergrove
- Mayor Keith Mays**  
City of Sherwood
- Mayor Jason Snider**  
City of Tigard
- Mayor Randy Lauer**  
City of Troutdale
- Mayor Frank Bubenik**  
City of Tualatin
- Mayor Anne McEnery-Ogle**  
City of Vancouver (ex officio)
- Mayor Jules Walters**  
City of West Linn
- Mayor Julie Fitzgerald**  
City of Wilsonville
- Mayor Scott Harden**  
City of Wood Village

Representative Julie Fahey, Chair  
 Representative Wlnsvey Campos, Vice-Chair  
 Representative Lily Morgan, Vice-Chair  
 House Committee on Housing

Re: Support for HB 2842

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

The Metropolitan Mayors’ Consortium (MMC) represents the mayors of 25 cities in the Portland Metro Area, collectively home to over 1.7 million Oregonians. The mayors of the MMC write to express their support of HB 2842, which establishes a Healthy Homes Program that would provide low-income residents and landlords in our communities with financial assistance to make repairs and improvements to their homes.

As mayors, we are constantly seeking ways to help ensure that everyone, regardless of income, is afforded the opportunity to live in a safe, healthy and affordable home. Housing affordability was already a monumental challenge that has only been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. More of our residents than ever are struggling to make ends meet, and people are spending more on energy now that they are spending more time at home. Energy costs are disproportionately burdensome for our low-income residents, many of whom live in homes with poor insulation and low-efficiency heating. HB 2842 will allow more Oregonians to reduce their energy costs and help prevent more people from becoming homeless.

The MMC supports the Healthy Homes Program not only for its housing affordability benefits, but also for its health benefits. In addition to funding energy efficiency improvements, HB 2842 will provide funding to address hazards like mold, radon, and lead-based paint. We also appreciate that the bill supports the modernization of public health by tracking the intersection of health and housing data so that we can begin to address the social determinants of health that drive up health care costs.

The MMC would also like to acknowledge the vital role of energy efficiency in meeting Oregon’s decarbonization and clean energy goals. Upgrades such as high-efficiency appliances, water heaters and ductless heat pumps are usually only options for the homeowners who can afford them, therefore limiting Oregon’s potential energy savings to just a fraction of our population. By providing funding to landlord for energy efficiency upgrades, HB 2842 can significantly increase our state’s capacity to reduce energy consumption while simultaneously lowering energy costs for tenants.

The mayors of the MMC urge the committee’s support for HB 2842 and appreciate the efforts made the by the Oregon Legislature to improve

quality of life for those who need it most. Thank you for your leadership and your consideration of our testimony.

Sincerely,

The Metropolitan Mayors' Consortium