

Testimony to House Energy & Environment Committee
HB 2062: Appliance Energy Efficiency Standards

Chair Marsh, Vice Chairs Helm and Brock-Smith,

My name is Dr. Pat DeLaquil, an energy policy expert and resident of Gresham. I organize with the OLCV Metro Climate Action Team (MCAT) is a community of volunteers working to ensure Oregon is a leader in addressing the climate crisis.

We acknowledge that our society is in the midst of multiple crises – the Covid-19 pandemic with the major job losses and economic disruptions that it has caused, and the vivid exposure of structural social and racial injustices and inequities - that demand action by our state's leaders. At the same time, we cannot ignore the climate crisis. We must rebuild our economy and our society in a way that is good for the people of our state and good for the climate.

In front of you this session will be many important pieces of legislation for clean electricity, energy affordability, electric vehicles, clean buildings, healthy homes and energy efficiency in our buildings and appliances.

Oregon currently lags behind our West Coast neighbors, Washington and California, in energy efficiency standards for appliances, putting Oregonians at a disadvantage. House Bill 2062 will make Oregon's Appliance efficiency standards consistent with other West Coast jurisdictions. More energy efficient appliances will mean a reduction in climate pollution and energy cost savings for Oregonians who buy new appliances. Oregon Dept. of Energy (ODOE) has estimated the standards in this bill alone could save Oregon consumers at least \$35 million per year by 2025 and more than \$100 million per year by 2035. This bill is an important piece of a much larger strategy we must pursue to help Oregonians transition to energy-saving, clean homes and buildings.

Sincerely,

Dr. Pat DeLaquil
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