

Subject: HB 4058 Public Testimony.

Chair Marsh, Vice Chairs Hudson, Brock Smith, and members of the Committee;

For the record my name is Twila Jacobsen, a retiree from public service and co-chair of SEIU503 Climate Justice Committee.

I urge a YES on HB 4058 Relating to Heat Relief, Declaring an Emergency.

Our lowest paid workers, senior citizens and folks with disabilities are finding it harder and harder to afford adequate, healthy, safe housing. This bill will improve the lives of all Oregonians, as well as low income households and frontline communities. Home repairs and retrofits are a smart investment as the return will be felt in reduction in greenhouse gas emissions, energy burden and healthcare costs.

SEIU503 Climate Justice Committee asks you to support the provisions to fund and install heat pumps through the Healthy Homes program passed in 2021. Heat pump HVAC systems can both heat and cool, and are electric. Expanding the use of electric systems like heat pumps will help us stop the root cause of climate change, which is exacerbated by using fossil fuels like coal, oil and natural gas. It is an investment in a healthier, better housed and happier society.

Thank you

Twila Jacobsen, co-chair SEIU503 Climate Justice Committee

Eugene/Lane County