

Submitter: Oshadhi Jayaweera

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Environment and Natural Resources

Measure: HB4058

To members of the Committee and Staff,

I support the bill HB 4058 as introduced. Coming from a tropical country where extreme heat waves are not uncommon, I have seen how it affects the daily lives of people, specially lower-middle income families. Oregon, especially in the past few years has seen a significant increase in illnesses and emergency hospitalizations due to heat related events. Heat wave events and poor air quality events affect more people than all other natural disasters and the most recent wildfire smoke in Oregon shows the severity of this matter. In 2021, at least 96 people died in Oregon during the heat dome alone. Therefore, I believe that installing air conditioners or heat pumps would help save the lives of people like them. Heat pumps would also be economically beneficial for the Oregonians as the heating and cooling functions of the heat pumps will help reduce the consumption of energy sources such as wood, propane, or oil that require either money or manual labor.

Please support this bill and provide adequate funding to implement it in full.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments,

[Oshadhi]