



February 7, 2022

Senate Energy and Environment Committee
900 Court St. NE
Salem, OR 97301

Chair Lieber, Vice-Chair Findley, and Members of the Committee,

Families for Climate was founded to bring parents and youth together to take action for climate justice. As parents nurturing the next generation, we have a responsibility to raise our voices to demand solutions to the climate crisis that our children are inheriting.

Around the state, cities are setting significant carbon reduction goals in order to avoid the most severe impacts of climate change. As they work to reduce their carbon footprint at the local level, they are currently being held back by the state of Oregon from enacting more robust building standards that would significantly reduce emissions from buildings. SB 1518 would allow cities and local governments the choice to develop building codes that meet their communities needs and goals.

Families for Climate supports SB 1518 as it empowers cities to take action and reduce emissions from buildings, which currently account for about $\frac{1}{3}$ of Oregon's climate pollution. In addition to reducing carbon impacts, the Reach Code would mean more buildings are resilient to the already present effects of climate change that threaten our children's health, like wildfire smoke, heat events, and everyday air pollution. The climate crisis is here and we need to use every tool at our disposal to protect our children's future. We can't wait another year to pass this much-needed bill.

We hope you will vote yes.

Sincerely,

Nora Lehmann
Board Co-President,
Families for Climate

Leonard Barrett
Board Co-President,
Families for Climate

