



**Date:** March 1, 2023

**To:** House Committee on Climate Energy and Environment

**From:** Clackamas County Business Alliance

**RE:** Please Oppose on HB 3152

Chair Marsh and members of the Committee on Climate, Energy and Environment:

The Clackamas County Business Alliance (CCBA) is a non-profit association of business and community members that are committed to the economic strength of Clackamas County. CCBA directly affects policy making by leveraging the strengths of the public and private sectors to ensure the economic vitality of Clackamas County.

While CCBA supports the overall goal of decarbonization and reducing greenhouse gas emissions, we respectfully oppose HB 3152 as currently written. HB 3152 directs the Oregon Public Utility Commission (PUC) to review new regulations and programs to reduce greenhouse gas emissions established by Governor Brown's executive order, in a manner that removes energy choice and impacts energy resiliency. The bill also prohibits ratepayer funded allowances from being used for natural gas line-extensions to residential buildings, treating the gas system in an inconsistent manner from other utilities.

Limiting the assistance to just electricity will adversely affect low-income and vulnerable families the most by eliminating their ability to improve their energy efficiency, using existing natural gas infrastructure, with no meaningful reduction in greenhouse gas emissions.

The bill denies low-income families the energy choice available to wealthier families who can afford new equipment without subsidies. The choice of appliance for low-income families is dictated by government even though these families have been paying into the Energy Trust of Oregon (ETO) fund all along.

CCBA respectfully requests the committee to reconsider HB 3152 and focus on working with all energy providers and their customers to ensure they have access to the highest efficiency equipment sector wide and focus their efforts that achieves the most decarbonization for the least cost. . Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nellie F. deVries".

Nellie deVries  
Executive Director  
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