



March 3, 2023

Oregon State Legislature
House Committee on Climate, Energy and Environment
900 Court St. NE
Salem, OR 97301

RE: House Bill 3152, Relating to the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions.

Chair Marsh, Sen. Dembrow, Rep. Gamba and Members of the Committee,

On behalf of the Oregon Chapter Sierra Club's 74,000 members and supporters, we appreciate this opportunity to submit testimony in support of HB 3152. We strongly urge you to vote YES to advance this bill.

The Oregon Chapter Sierra Club fully supports HB 3152, a forward-looking, practical bill in service of our Climate Action Plan goals. The objective of the bill is to decrease consumer demand for fossil gas and to protect utility customers as we head into increasing climate regulations. The bill incentivizes and accelerates the state's transition away from residential fossil gas usage toward reliance on electricity-based energy.

HB 3152 exhorts the Public Utilities Commission to consider and integrate climate change, climate change impacts and the state's greenhouse gas emissions reduction goals and targets into the commission's decisions on planning, budgets, investments and policymaking.

HB 3152 protects residential utility customers from risks of stranded fossil fuel assets and managing the burden of escalating gas bills. To accomplish this, the provisions shift the cost of expanding fossil fuel infrastructure from residential utility customers to gas companies and their investors. And, by January 2026, the bill removes ratepayer-funded incentives to subsidize gas appliances or gas line extensions in residential buildings.

Enhancing the objectives of this bill are the federal dollars available to states from the Inflation Reduction Act's \$370 billion. This purposeful money will help jump-start migration away from residential fossil fuel infrastructure and incentivize consumers to shift to electric energy at lower energy cost. Many ratepayers will surely recognize the advantages proffered by this bill.

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We believe that HB 3152 will provide rigorous tools toward achieving a more sustainable and livable future for all Oregon's creatures, great and small. We urge the committee to vote YES to advance HB 3152.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Dix, Chair
Legislative Committee
Oregon Chapter Sierra Club