



350PDX
3625 N. Mississippi Avenue
Portland, OR 97227
350pdx.org

Dear Chair Sollman, Vice-Chair Findley, and members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony in support of the Resilient, Efficient Buildings policy package, SB 868 - 871, which will reduce climate pollution, while supporting healthy, affordable, resilient communities and family-wage jobs across Oregon.

350PDX is a grassroots-powered organization that has been supporting and building a movement for climate justice in the Portland region for 10 years. We work to address the root causes of the climate crisis through justice-based solutions by inspiring, training, and mobilizing people to act. **350PDX is a proud supporter of the Resilient, Efficient Buildings policy package, SB 868 - 871, and the many opportunities these policies would provide to Oregonians.** Specifically:

- **Healthy Heating and Cooling for All (SB 868)** will align our energy efficiency programs with our state climate goals, accelerate heat pump deployment, and ramp up other energy efficiency efforts like weatherizing and retrofitting existing homes;
- **Build Smart from the Start (SB 869)** will update Oregon's base building code so that all new buildings are constructed to be more efficient and resilient from the start;
- **Building Performance Standards (SB 870)** will improve the energy efficiency of large, energy-intensive commercial buildings through the adoption of a Building Performance Standard;
- **Smart State Buildings (SB 871)** will help to reduce barriers for public buildings to be made more efficient and healthier.

Buildings are responsible for 34 percent of the state's total climate emissions. This is due to the fossil fuels used for electricity to power our homes and buildings, and the fossil gas piped in for heating and cooking. As the second largest—and growing—source of climate pollution in Oregon, the buildings in which we live and work are critical to achieving our climate goals. While Oregon has made some important progress in recent years, we know there is still more work to rein in climate pollution from our top polluting sectors.

Building the climate justice movement.



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Burning methane “natural” gas in our homes and buildings is bad for our health, our wallets, and our climate. It's time for a transition. Methane is a fossil fuel. Burning it for heat and cooking is dangerously warming the climate and pumping air pollution into our communities, including inside homes, workplaces, schools, daycares and other places we spend our time. We'll gain better health, lower costs, and a safer climate by increasing climate resilience, with more insulation and sturdier windows and doors, and transitioning to clean electricity for heating and cooking. Let's take action in Oregon so all our homes and buildings are more resilient to protect us from climate harms.

350PDX is proud to be part of a broad coalition of labor, builders, public health, affordable housing, environmental justice, local government, and climate experts from across Oregon who are eager to see the legislature advance Resilient, Efficient Buildings. Together, these policies will support better health, lower costs, less pollution, and safer communities across Oregon. **Our organization and our members respectfully urge your support on SB 868 - 871.**

Thank you,

Dineen O'Rourke,
Campaign Manager,
350PDX

Building the climate justice movement.