



Oregon State Legislature
Senate Committee on Energy and Environment
Salem, OR

March 15, 2023

Dear Chair Sollman and Committee Members,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony in support of Senate Bill 868. Spark Northwest is a regional nonprofit that partners with marginalized rural, coastal, and urban communities across the Pacific Northwest to design and build clean energy projects.

We support SB 868 because:

1. **Extreme weather** is an increasingly common health and safety risk for Oregonians statewide
2. Low-income, BIPOC, rural, and coastal communities experience the **greatest harms** from extreme weather
3. **Safe and affordable housing** in our state is in short supply
4. Heat pumps cut energy costs and **make homes safer, healthier, and more affordable**
5. This bill will **make heat pumps accessible and affordable** for Oregonians across the state who are most impacted by extreme weather

Today we are excited to offer our support for SB 868. As you work to pass the bill out of committee, we urge you to simultaneously prioritize SB 869, SB 870, and SB 871, which together will support widespread adoption of safe and cost-effective heating and cooling statewide.

Sincerely,

John Seng

John Seng
Policy Manager
john@sparknorthwest.org

1402 3rd Ave, Suite 901
Seattle, WA 98101

sparknorthwest.org

