

Submitter: Jonny Kocher

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Energy and Environment

Measure: SB870

Thank you for this opportunity. For the record, my name is Jonny Kocher. I'm a Manager at RMI, an independent nonprofit working to shift toward a low-carbon future.

I am here to testify in favor of the full package of bills from the resilient, Efficient Buildings policy package, SB 868 - 871. This package will help Oregonians improve their health, reduce their utility bills, and increase their climate resilience in both new and existing buildings.

All Buildings should be built Smart from the Start. We have the technology TODAY to build clean, healthy, and inexpensive homes today. Recent RMI analysis has found that new homes in the city of Eugene built with zero emission technology cost \$3,446 less than a home with combustion equipment. Most of these cost savings are by avoiding the installation of costly fossil gas line extensions. That analysis also found that new homes with heat pumps and heat pump waters built in the will save approximately \$100 a year in utility bills.

But new buildings are not enough, both the building performance standard and the Healthy Heating and Cooling for All bills will further help grow the market for clean, efficient heat pump technologies. Oregonians no longer need to live without access to cooling while their windows are closed because of climate change-driven wildfire smoke and extreme heat waves. By improving heat pump deployment, requiring our most inefficient buildings to reduce their electricity use, and building smart from the start, Oregon will be well on its way to building the future its citizens deserve.

Please vote 'Yes' on SB 868-871. Thank you so much for your time.