



March 12, 2023

Chair Sollman, Vice-Chair Findley, members of Senate Committee on Energy and Environment

In support of SB 868, 869, 870, 871

The Electrify Coalition is a group of over 50 organizations that include builders, building engineers, HVAC contractors, solar installers, community organizations, faith-based groups, student groups, community solar project managers and energy focused non-profits. Our coalition is dedicated to promoting clean renewable energy and high efficiency electrification solutions to improve energy security, reduce energy costs and eliminate energy related carbon emissions in Oregon.

Well insulated, all-electric buildings are healthier, safer, lower cost to operate, and dramatically reduce the climate impacts of our homes and offices. This should be the norm for all Oregonians, regardless of where they live or their income levels.

We strongly support this package of bills which will collectively accelerate the transition to more resilient, more comfortable and safer homes and buildings for all residents in Oregon. The trend toward electrification of our buildings is already apparent, but it cannot happen fast enough. At least half the homes and buildings in our state still consume fossil gas, or oil or propane. Many more are reliant on inefficient electric resistant heating or need significant weatherization or building shell improvements. Our buildings are a leading source of climate pollution and air pollution that adversely affects everyone in the state. We need to build new buildings and rapidly transform existing buildings with energy efficiency in mind, and take advantage of high efficiency electric solutions for heating and cooking to keep people comfortable, safe and to meet our climate goals. These bills will help to achieve this.

We appreciate how these bills will align the actions of state agencies with the climate reduction goals adopted by the state to better ensure those important goals are met. We also appreciate how they direct the state to take these same actions with state owned buildings to demonstrate effective action.

We urge you to support these bills and to make them as strong as possible.

Respectfully,
 Brian Stewart
 Representing the Electrify Coalition