



March 22, 2023

Re: HB 2990 Community Resiliency Hubs

Chair Marsh and Members of the House Committee on Climate, Energy and Environment:

I'm writing today on behalf of Consolidated Oregon Indivisible Network (COIN) to express strong support for HB 2990, which directs the Oregon Health Authority to develop and implement a grant program to support resilience hubs and networks in Oregon.

What a great idea! After listening to the testimony of those whose lives were turned upside down by fires that swept through their communities in recent years, and how they found themselves organizing community hubs to provide for the needs of those displaced or for those working on recovery efforts or for those who were in other ways dealing with the aftermath of disaster, it makes so much sense to organize such community hubs ahead of time.

COIN is made up of Indivisible groups from across Oregon that collaborate to protect democracy and implement progressive values through voter outreach and education, campaigns and elections, holding our elected leaders accountable, and advocating for legislation that best reflects our values.

Many of our member groups are in rural parts of Oregon, areas where fires and other disasters may be more likely to occur, but where resources for recovery are less available than they might be in more urban areas. Such community hubs would increase Oregon's preparedness and resiliency to natural and climate-related disasters. Importantly, the idea of providing communities with the resources to plan and create resiliency hubs to meet their particular needs is practical and efficient, and will build community relationships that will further increase resiliency during a time of crisis.

On behalf of COIN, I urge you to pass HB 2990 into law.

Respectfully,

Deborah Ferrer
COIN Steering Committee
COIN Legislative Team