



March 31st, 2023

Representative Pam Marsh, Chair
House Committee on Climate, Energy, and Environment
Oregon State Legislature
900 Court St. NE, H-490
Salem, Oregon 97301

Dear Chair Marsh, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Lindsey Hardy and I the Director of Energy and Waste Programs at the Environmental Center based in Central Oregon. I am voicing our strong support for HB 3378 Community Energy Resilience, to study microgrids and increase energy resilience.

The Environmental Center has been working for the last year and a half to start a grassroots energy planning process for Deschutes County. Through many conversations with stakeholders and the community, we know that smart energy planning and the ability to be resilient in the face of energy uncertainty is becoming increasingly important and has wide support. The level of support and need for this work do not, however, match up to the resources that are available to initiate these types of projects. This is why the funding that is proposed, up to \$50,000 per county, is so important.

I encourage you to vote yes on HB 3378 with the -2 amendments as it aims to establish crucial resources for the state to collectively come to a better understanding of microgrids, their benefits, and how to streamline implementation, and resources for counties to begin the on-the-ground work of planning for the future.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

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