

Co-chairs Steiner and Sanchez and all members of the Committee,

For the record my name is Helena Birecki, I live in Senate District 16, and am a member of the Building Resilience Coalition and the Climate Reality Project.

**I am writing in support of funding**

- **The Building Resilience package:** SB 868, 869, 870, and 871 and HB 3166
- **Natural Climate Solutions:** SB 530
- **A Comprehensive State Energy Strategy:** HB 2534

The Building Resilience package and Natural Climate Solutions bills are designed to allow Oregon to leverage extensive federal funding from the Inflation Reduction Act, and create good jobs which can't be exported to reduce climate pollution and make our homes, businesses, and natural surroundings healthier, safer, and more resilient.

Funding the Department of Energy to develop a comprehensive state energy strategy in line with Oregon's climate and health goals is absolutely key to ensure future energy affordability and accessibility.

In the hearing in Newport, you heard so many expressing needs for public health, actions that will enable a better future for Oregon's children and college students, and infrastructure safety. The thing that ties all these together is stopping climate pollution as quickly as possible and building resilience in the face of the climate-change fueled extreme weather events that are already here.

This year you have an unprecedented opportunity to accomplish this. Just a modest allocation of this budget's funds to efficient and resilient buildings, forest and wetland restoration projects, public transportation, and solar and wind energy can leverage billions of dollars of federal funding from the Inflation Reduction Act, creating an abundance of good jobs which can't be exported, and a healthier, safer Oregon. Please take the opportunity.

Thank you,  
Helena Birecki