

Submitter: Simone Crowe
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means
Measure: SB5506

We have an opportunity to make communities in every corner of the state more resilient by ensuring they have safe and affordable housing, access to clean energy, and community support before, during, and after climate disasters. Frontline communities are most impacted by the climate crisis, including people of color, low-income families, people with disabilities, and people in rural areas. These legislative solutions will create a more healthy and resilient Oregon where everyone can thrive, and that's why we're joining together in Salem to find solutions. I urge you to fully fund a Resilience Agenda. This includes: Community resilience hubs and networks as created through House Bill 2990. Resilience hubs and networks will keep communities safe, healthy, and well-connected before, during, and after disasters. The TREES Act (HB 3016) HB 3016 creates a Community Green Infrastructure Grant Program at the Department of Land Conservation and Development to fund communities to develop projects that increase tree canopy, improve livability, and support water quality and conservation, all of which increases community resilience. Projects that are prioritized include school campuses, rights of way, projects with a workforce and economic development component, and projects in areas with low tree canopy or rural and remote areas. Affordable, Abundant Housing Reasonable Rent (SB 611, HB 2733) Stabilize our families and economy by ensuring rents do not rise more than a reasonable amount annually, statewide. Without amendment, the current law will likely allow rent increases in excess of 15% in the coming year. Building Resilience In our community, a resilience hub or resilience network would have been incredibly helpful when [include an event, as applicable, of extreme weather or climate change that has personal relevance]. We need state funding for programs that build physical, social, and ecological well-being, especially in the communities that are most highly and frequently impacted. Investing in these priorities will support local economies and unlock new federal funds for clean energy. We are stronger together. Resilient communities can make the difference between surviving and thriving.