

Senate Committee On Housing and Development

RE: Support for SB 1530-3

2/13/24

Chair Jama, Vice-Chair Anderson, and members of the committee,

For the record my name is Jasmine Rossiter and I am a student at Willamette University. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in **support of SB 1530-3**. I want to talk specifically about the -3 amendment and my support for **healthy homes**.

Our first round of this bill we were granted \$7.5 billion, which we are so extremely grateful for and express extreme gratitude for. However, this is half of what our community has found that will help benefit all of our communities who hold lower class status. We are passionately asking for your support to double this amount for healthy homes.

As a person of color, newly local to Salem, I wholeheartedly back this legislation for its commitment to creating Healthy Homes, especially considering the groundbreaking efforts made by the 2021 Oregon Legislature to address environmental justice factors affecting low-income households that we see so often in Salem.

The 2021 Oregon Legislature laid the foundation for achieving Healthy Homes for low-income households, defined below 80 percent of the earned median family income. This groundbreaking legislation has undoubtedly set the stage for inclusive and equitable policies that consider the unique challenges faced by marginalized communities.

As a person of color, I am acutely aware of the disparities in how environmental factors can disproportionately impact communities like mine. Climate injustice is a reality that affects the well-being of individuals and families, and it is heartening to see SB 1530-3 continuing the momentum of previous legislation to address these issues head-on.

Having recently become a resident of Salem, I am committed to making this city my home for the next four years and beyond, following my graduation. However, being new to the area, I am not accustomed to the extreme weather conditions prevalent in Salem, such as harsh winters, intense summer heat waves, and the potential for earthquakes. These conditions pose unique challenges for someone who, like me, is unfamiliar with the local climate and its impact on daily life.

The -3 amendment of SB 1530 recognizes the importance of adapting our homes to the realities of the local climate. By doing so, it addresses not only the needs of all residents but particularly those of marginalized communities who may face additional hurdles due to climate-related

challenges. This amendment ensures that the benefits of Healthy Homes are extended to everyone, regardless of their background or circumstances.

In conclusion, I urge you to support SB 1530-3 and the -3 amendment, recognizing the importance of promoting Healthy Homes for communities facing environmental justice factors, particularly for individuals of color. This legislation aligns with the principles of equity and inclusivity, setting a precedent for addressing climate injustice and fostering a healthier, more resilient Salem.

Thank you for your time and consideration as we as a community face this challenge head on.

Sincerely,

Jasmine Rossiter