

Submitter: Graham Holmes

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3170

I am writing in support of continued funding for community resilience hubs across the State of Oregon, specifically HB 3170. I moved to Oregon from Texas several years ago. While living in Texas, I survived the infamous ice storm of 2021. During this extreme cold event, I lost power, went without food, and was forced to use snow as the only available source of freshwater. That being said, I was without a doubt one of the lucky ones—for many, this ice storm proved a deadly event. A major reason that the impact of the ice storm was felt so greatly across the state was the utter lack of community resources. People were entirely unprepared for an event of this magnitude, and had no idea where to turn for help and refuge in a time of unprecedented difficulty. If there had been a community resilience hub, many of those who were worst impacted by the storm may have been spared. As climate catastrophes increase in scale, strength, and regularity, please ensure that those in our state have a place to turn in their time of need, unlike the citizens of Texas. With the passage of HB 3170, Oregonians can remain safe and informed in the face of a frightening new climate reality.