

Submitter: Sarah Kline
On Behalf Of: Oregon League of Conservation Voters
Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3170

My name is Sarah Kline, and I live in Portland, Oregon and I am writing because I work for the Oregon League of Conservation Voters. I support HB 3170 to provide an additional \$10 million in funding for Resilience Hubs and Networks.

Extreme weather and wildfires continue to hurt Oregonians, and we must ensure all communities have access to the resources and networks they need to thrive, not just survive. I support HB 3170 and the continued funding of Resilience Hubs and Networks because: In the past 4 years, I've experienced two weather-induced disaster instances.

When I was living in Eugene, in a tall apartment building without AC, Eugene reached a record-setting 111 degrees - the highest ever recorded at the time. I was lucky enough to have a family member with cooling close by that was willing to host me until it cooled down, but I know not everyone had that same opportunity.

Then, just last year during the ice storm in Portland, my house lost heat and all electricity for a week. Our house got to below 40 degrees, and we were lucky that we had a portable heater we used for camping. We need Resilience Hubs to better equip our communities to withstand these ever-worsening disasters.

So far, Resilience Hubs and Networks has invested \$10 million in locally-driven, community-led efforts to prepare us for disaster. During the last grant cycle, the state received over 700 applications and was only able to fund 96 of them, demonstrating the clear need for continued funding for Resilience Hubs and Networks. These grants helped communities repair buildings that are emergency shelters, purchase satellite phones, generators, solar generators, water purification systems, and emergency vehicles; and financed staff positions like nurses and outreach staff. These investments will save lives, help first responders, speed recovery, and benefit the communities that are hit first and worst by extreme weather, wildfires, and other natural disasters.

I urge you to support HB 3170 so we can continue building strong Oregon communities.