

Date: February 4th, 2025

To: House Committee on Climate, Energy, and Environment

Subject: Support for Resilience Hubs and Networks

Dear Chair Lively, Vice-Chair Gamba, Vice-Chair Bobby Levy, and Members of the House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment:

My name is Ellie Kim and I live in Salem, Oregon and I am writing because I've witnessed the annual wildfires happening in California that's affecting Oregon's climate. 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:

1. I've experienced the constant horrors of wildfires happening in Southern Oregon/Northern California, specifically the Almeda Fire in 2020. Not being able to see the skies, choking from the smoke, and almost on the verge of losing my home before moving to Salem was shocking.
2. By funding Resilience Hubs and Networks, they can help Oregonians being threatened by wildfires, extreme heat, and other disasters. By investing in our communities, we can watch each other flourish and watch our next generation grow.

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 69 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.

Sincerely,

Ellie Kim

Salem, Oregon