



February 4, 2025

Chair John Lively  
Vice-Chair Mark Gamba  
Vice-Chair Bobby Levy  
House Committee on Climate, Energy, and Environment  
Oregon State Legislature  
900 Court St NE  
Salem, OR 97301

Subject: The LOC Letter of Support for HB 3170

Dear Chair Lively, Vice-Chairs Gamba and Levy, and members of the House Committee on Climate, Energy, and Environment,

My name is Nolan Pleše and I'm a lobbyist with the League of Oregon Cities (LOC). On behalf of the LOC, I am pleased to offer our strong support for House Bill 3170 – Resilience Hubs and Networks. The LOC represents 241 diverse and unique cities across Oregon. Our members all have unique challenges and perspectives that are specific and reflective of their communities.

There is no one-size-fits-all approach to tackling resiliency for our communities when it comes to preparing for and/or responding to a natural or human-caused disaster. Whether a community faces an economic downturn, an ice storm, wildfires, or public power shut-offs to protect the grid from another disaster, each challenge is unique, and the community response should be led by the people who know those communities the best.

It's for these reasons that the LOC is in strong support of HB 3170. It's very important for cities to have the flexibility to tailor a program to their needs to ensure that it's their community's voices that are leading the charge. HB 3170 provides the flexibility that cities and communities across Oregon need.

Oregon has experienced a multitude of crises over the years. Since the creation of the Resilience Hubs and Networks program, locally-driven, community-led efforts across Oregon have surpassed all expectations for the Original \$10 million investment. The state received over 700 applications during the last grant cycle and was only able to fund 96 projects.

We are immensely proud and excited that those projects received funding, but we also realize that it's clearly not enough. The early success of this program has demonstrated a strong need for more funding, which is why we are seeking an additional \$10 million to continue this program.

Grants from the Resilience Hubs and Networks program have empowered our communities to create emergency shelters, and purchase generators, water purification systems, emergency vehicles, and satellite phones to name a few. Each use is unique to the needs of each community. Unfortunately, there are still many more communities that did not receive funding. From our rural to urban spaces, frontier to suburban communities, it's clear there is a need and luckily, a program that provides the flexibility necessary to meet the needs of those communities.

The LOC strongly urges this committee to support and pass HB 3170. Thank you for your time and your consideration.

Sincerely,

Nolan Pleše  
Lobbyist, the League of Oregon Cities (LOC)

