



Community Renewable Energy Association
James Williams - Executive Director
jwilliams@crearenewables.org
541.410.8075

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Subject: CREA Testimony in support of HB 2066

Honorable Chair Lively, Vice-Chair Gamba, Vice-Chair Bobby Levy, and members of the committee:

Please accept this submit testimony in support of HB 2066 on behalf of the Community Renewable Energy Association (CREA).

CREA an intergovernmental entity representing local governments & developers of renewable energy facilities in Oregon since 2007. Members of CREA include counties, irrigation districts, project developers, for-profit businesses and non-profit organizations. CREA supports business and economic opportunities through renewable energy development in a competitive environment. CREA supports the use of free enterprise principles to create economically and environmentally responsible electric generation within the State of Oregon.

HB 2066, if passed, would:

1. Have the Oregon Public Utilities Commission (OPUC) conduct an investigation to determine the benefits and constraints of microgrid development;
2. Establish clarity around who can own & operate community-led microgrids with interconnection standards and requirements; and,
3. Create mechanisms to capture the true value of microgrids and understand their ability to make our grid more reliable.

Almost everyone has probably experienced the very real frustration of local sacrifices in one community being made to accommodate the convenience of another. This concept manifests itself in the world of energy generation on a regular basis. Microgrids are wonderful alternative that can provide certainty to communities.

Thank you for considering moving this legislation forward. CREA believes this bill is an important part of a package that will help further the development of microgrids around the state in the communities that need it most.

Regards,

James Williams
CREA Executive Director