



Service Employees
International Union
Local 503

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Date: February 11, 2025

To: House Committee on Climate, Energy, and Environment
From: Mike Powers

RE: Support for HB 2567

Dear Chair Lively, Vice-Chair Gamba, Vice-Chair Levy, Members of the
Committee:

My name is Mike Powers, and I am writing in strong support of HB 2567. This bill strengthens the vital Heat Pump Deployment Programs and extends the Rental Program, ensuring more Oregonians can access energy-efficient heating and cooling solutions.

SEIU represents 72,000 workers across Oregon, many of whom struggle with housing affordability and the challenges of staying warm in the winter and cool in the summer. Our members have made improving housing affordability and addressing climate change top priorities.

Heat pumps are an exceptionally efficient way to regulate home temperatures, operating **3 to 6 times more efficiently** than conventional gas or electric systems. They also reduce the cost of new construction, eliminate the need for gas infrastructure, and lower monthly energy bills. As Oregon experiences more extreme and prolonged heat events due to climate change, access to affordable cooling and heating has never been more important.

These programs have proven both **effective and popular**, prioritizing low-income communities and individuals who often lack reliable central heating and cooling. HB 2567 provides improvements on this success by guarding personal information better; extending the rental heat program to January 2, 2032; and mandating important provisions such as audits, reporting, and upgraded data security.

For these reasons, SEIU Local 503 strongly supports HB 2567 and urges your **“aye” vote**.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Mike Powers
Immediate Past President
Political & Policy Strategist
SEIU Local 503