

18 February 2025

House Committee on Climate, Energy and Environment  
Oregon State Capitol  
900 Court Street NE  
Salem, OR 97301

Subject: HB 2656 - Support

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

Net metering is an effective public-private partnership and a critical tool that has been providing substantial economic and power reliability benefits to a wide range of Oregonians for several decades. At the same time it has helped reduce the load that our overburdened transmission grid needs to carry in order to meet rising demand and the requirements of HB 2021's clean energy goals. These benefits are substantial, but we can and should do more.

HB 2656 would enable net metered customers to increase the capacity of their solar systems to not only better meet their own requirements, but also provide their excess power to the grid. Besides the obvious benefits to the local grid, it would also improve the economic payback for customers which could result in more of them participating. Furthermore, the improved economics may encourage more pairing of net metered solar with battery storage which brings additional benefits to both the customer and the local grid.

Net metering has been embraced by customers across all income levels including 39% in low and moderate income Oregonians. Prices for solar PV continue to decline and should help to further increase participation in net metering opportunities.

I urge you to help strengthen net metering in Oregon by supporting HB 2656.

Respectfully,  
Michael Mitton  
MCAT (Mobilizing Climate Action Together)

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