



March 4, 2025

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

The undersigned organizations representing labor, builders, public health, business, environmental justice, faith communities, and climate experts from across Oregon enthusiastically urge your support on action to address **energy affordability and resilience in homes and buildings**.

As Oregonians struggle with skyrocketing utility bills, we need to take action to provide folks with the resources they need **to lower their bills through energy efficiency!**

Inefficient homes lead to higher energy bills making it harder for families who are already struggling to stay in their homes. A bill that cost \$100 a month four years ago, is now \$150 or more, adding up to hundreds of dollars each year. On top of these cost challenges, Oregonians are also struggling to adapt to climate driven extreme weather and disasters. [At least 17 Oregonians](#) died in 2024 and countless were sickened due to extreme heat and the [largest wildfire burns in state history](#).

We must do more to protect people, and prepare our homes and buildings from harms brought on by climate change. About half of homes and apartments where Oregonians live were built before 1980. This housing is extremely energy inefficient and in need of repairs. Frontline communities, including people of color, low-income families, people with disabilities, and folks in rural areas are often unable to afford these repairs without help.

There are many options for Oregonians to upgrade their homes and buildings for better health, lower costs, less pollution, and higher resilience. Yet **finding and applying for incentives and rebates** for efficient heat pumps, improved insulation, sturdier doors and windows, and clean electric cooking **can be a challenge**.

Since many of these programs have different rules and requirements, they can be complex and overwhelming to navigate. **One Stop Shop 2.0 (HB 3081)** aims to offer live support to help users navigate the many available upgrades and rebates. Oregonians will get direct assistance from someone in their part of the state to make their home projects more affordable through locating programs they qualify for, connect with trusted contractors, and ask questions (to a live human!) along the way.

Every Oregonian should have access to life-changing home upgrades that lower energy bills, improve health, and protect us from extreme heat and wildfire smoke. **We must make it easier for people** of all incomes and abilities **to stay in their homes and make housing resilient.**

We can create good-paying jobs in clean energy and help communities that are most impacted by climate change by **making it easier for people to invest in climate resilience.** With One Stop Shop 2.0, we can help people afford the transition to a cleaner, more sustainable system that **benefits everyone – from workers in clean energy to families struggling to make ends meet.**

Energy-efficient buildings are key not only to improving affordability, but also to protecting health. For all these reasons, we respectfully urge your support of HB 3081.

Sincerely,

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Community Energy Project

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