

Submitter: Holly Carter

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3609

I support HB 3609 because distributed power plants (DPP) will create benefits for all Oregonians, including:

Saving customers money;

Providing grid benefits at this time of rapidly growing energy demand;

Helping to prevent power outages; and

Reducing the need to operate expensive and polluting “peaker” power plants.

The financial incentives of a DPP program enable more people to adopt solar energy, battery storage, and other distributed energy resources. This means DPPs also spur much-needed economic development, private investment, innovation and technology development.

As traditional energy costs continue to go up, DPPs will help to provide members of Oregon communities like mine with affordable access to more cost effective energy sources to heat their homes in the winter and keep them cool in our increasingly hot summers. Our household was able to install solar panels this past year, which has somewhat insulated us from increased energy rates, but I know many others in our community still struggle to absorb these rising rates. HB 3609 will benefit families as well as businesses that want to invest in Oregon, helping our economy and Oregonians to thrive. For these reasons, I urge you to vote yes.