

House Committee on Climate, Energy and the Environment Oregon State Capitol 900 Court St. NE Salem Oregon 97301

March 18, 2025

Dear Chair Lively, Vice-chairs Gamba and Levy, and members of the committee,

My name is Abygale Jaeger, Program Manager at Solar Oregon. Solar Oregon is a 501(c)3 nonprofit that has worked to encourage solar and storage adoption throughout Oregon since 1979. We do this by providing reliable and impartial consumer education such as How To Go Solar + Storage workshops, working to build the clean energy community, and community outreach. Other examples of the work we do are solar tours, Solarize campaigns, and expert panel discussions on a range of topics related to solar.

I'm here to support HB 3747 to create a solar tax credit. This tax credit is refundable, so would be available to homeowners of any income level. Having financial incentives is extremely important to having the highest number of people able to access solar energy as possible. An uncertainty of funding, since the state Solar + Storage Rebate Program keeps running out of funds and the availability of federal tax credits is uncertain, is a common barrier we hear from people who would otherwise go solar. Having a solar tax credit would give more predictability to state solar incentives.

Please support the creation of a solar tax credit, to give both customers the certainty needed to choose clean energy. A refundable solar tax credit will help Oregon families who can't afford the recent utility rate hikes to have solar as an alternative solution.

Sincerely,

Abygale Jaeger Program Manager, Solar Oregon