

Submitter: Lou Stagnitto
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB5006

Co-Chairs Lieber and Sanchez, and Members of the Ways & Means Committee,

As a very concerned Oregonian, I'm doing my part to mitigate the worst effects of climate change, modeling behavior (buying electric, insulating my home, signed up for community solar) and am encouraging leadership in Oregon's Legislature to continue to focus on ways to battle climate change. You have the power to make significant differences, so please do not squander that opportunity. Please know this means a lot to those of us encouraging our families and neighbors to take significant climate action. You can inspire more action through these legislative opportunities. Please stand up and help us fight for a real impact. I am writing to urge you to prioritize protecting our climate progress and continue investing in our climate resilience.

We all deserve to breathe clean air, drink safe water, and heat and cool our homes without facing outrageous utility bills. That's why I'm asking you to fund programs that will:

1. Ensure Oregonians can heat and cool their homes affordably – without having to choose between keeping the lights on or putting food on the table:
Heat Pumps (Oregon Dept. of Energy programs) - \$30 million for Rental Home Heat Pump and \$15 million for Community Heat Pump Deployment Programs. For many families, a heat pump can be a lifeline. Heat pumps mean lower utility bills when costs are skyrocketing, safety from deadly heat, and being able to afford and stay in housing. These programs help keep people safe, housed, and secure in their communities.

One Stop Shop 2.0 (HB 3081) - Oregonians need more support navigating all the programs to upgrade their homes and buildings through incentives and rebates for efficient heat pumps, improved insulation, sturdier doors and windows, and clean electric cooking. One Stop Shop 2.0 will help families get direct assistance from someone in their area to make their home projects more affordable.

2. Ensure our communities are prepared for extreme weather events. Heat domes, wildfires, ice storms, drought, and extreme weather are growing more common and more devastating – and taking a serious toll on our health, safety, and economy:
Community Resilience Hubs (ODHS) - \$10 million for community resilience hubs and networks across the state to coordinate and provide access to resources and services for vulnerable populations during disasters.

We're facing great chaos and uncertainty at the federal level, including attacks on clean air and water, affordable energy, and the integrity of our public lands. If we fail to act and protect our climate progress, it's our frontline communities — people with disabilities, rural families, people of color, and working folks — who will be hurt first and worst. But every Oregonian will feel the impact. Investing in climate resiliency means investing in community resiliency.

Thank you for your time and for investing in a resilient climate future for all of Oregon.

Lou Stagnitto
Portland