

April 30, 2025

**Position on Bills at 2025
Session of Oregon Legislature:**

HB 3653: Support



The Consolidated Oregon Indivisible Network (COIN) is a coalition of over 50 local Indivisible groups throughout Oregon that cooperate and amplify their joint efforts to advance important federal and state legislation and engage with elected officials to promote causes for the benefit of all Oregonians.

COIN supports HB 3653, which would allow authorized state agencies to enter into energy performance contracts without requiring a competitive procurement, if the authorized state agency follows rules that the Attorney General adopts, negotiates a performance guarantee, and enters into the contract with a qualified energy service company that the Oregon Department of Energy (ODOE) prequalifies and approves. ODOE maintains a list of pre-qualified ESCOs that state agencies can utilize; there are currently seven active, qualified ESCOs on the list.

The 2024 ODOE report on State Energy Efficient Design (SEED) concluded that only 154 of the 309 state buildings participating in the SEED program achieved their energy performance targets. Under a performance contract with an ESCO, the state agency pays for actual achievement of measured energy savings, not for the specific improvements made to the building. ESCOs often provide their own funds to make the improvements, reducing strain on state agency budgets. The state agency then pays for the measured energy savings as they are actually achieved, which reduce the operating costs of the building in tandem with the payment schedule.

This system does not fit with current laws and regulations requiring competitive bidding for building improvements. HB 3653 is intended to overcome that barrier.

Consolidated Oregon Indivisible Network (COIN)

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