



Office of Senate Majority Leader Kate Lieber

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

April 24, 2023

**Press Contact:**

Tess Seger, [Tess.Seger@oregonlegislature.gov](mailto:Tess.Seger@oregonlegislature.gov)

## **ICYMI: Senate Majority Leader Kate Lieber Proposes Real Solutions to Climate Crisis in New Op Ed**

**SALEM, Ore** - In an op ed for the *Portland Tribune*, **Senate Majority Leader Kate Lieber (D-Beaverton and Southwest Portland)** elevates new, impactful solutions to the climate crisis in the Resilient Efficient Buildings (REBuild) Package, which she developed and introduced in partnership with **Representative Pam Marsh (D-Ashland)**.

The REBuild Package will:

- Help Oregonians maximize rebates and incentives to purchase and install heat pumps, prioritizing low-income and climate-vulnerable households. (Healthy Heating and Cooling for All, [Senate Bill 868](#))
- Ensure new buildings are constructed efficiently to save Oregonians' money on energy bills, improve indoor air quality and reduce climate pollution. (Build Smart from the Start, [Senate Bill 869](#))
- Drive energy efficiency improvements and pollution reduction for our largest commercial buildings through flexible requirements and financial incentives (Building Performance Standards, [Senate Bill 870](#))
- Reduce climate pollution from state-owned buildings, helping to reach our pollution reduction goals and ensuring our government leads by example. (Smart State Buildings, [Senate Bill 871](#))
- A companion bill, [House Bill 3166](#), will create a one-stop shop for accessing energy incentives, helping Oregon families understand their options and make the right choices for their homes.

An excerpt of her piece and link to the full article are included below.

**Portland Tribune:** [Senator Kate Lieber “Building a safer, more affordable, resilient Oregon”](#)

*The data is clear: Residential and commercial buildings are now the second-largest and growing source of climate pollution in Oregon, right behind transportation. Many of those same inefficient, outdated homes and buildings that pollute our air also fail to keep our communities safe when we are at our most vulnerable.*

*Unreliable cooling leaves too many families to swelter during record heat. Wildfire smoke seeps inside our homes through poorly sealed windows and doors. Buildings with insufficient insulation leave tenants to foot the bill for skyrocketing energy costs.*

*These vulnerabilities are felt most acutely by frontline, low-income, rural, Black, Latinx and Indigenous communities. Those same communities are more likely to spend a greater share of their income on energy bills.*

*How we build is how we live, and it's clear that Oregon needs a better foundation.*

###