



Senate Majority Office

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Senate Democrats Protect Oregon's Families and Future in Every Corner of the State with Historic Climate Package

SALEM, Ore - Today, Senate Democrats passed historic investments that will combat the climate crisis and protect Oregon families from extreme weather, while driving down costs and growing the green economy. [House Bill 3409](#) and [House Bill 3630](#) set Oregon up to draw down hundreds of millions of federal dollars from the Inflation Reduction Act and Bipartisan Infrastructure and Jobs Act that will go towards reducing emissions, upgrading homes and buildings, local disaster resilience projects, and opening the door for Oregon landowners who want to participate in the Green Economy.

"From heat domes and wildfires to ice storms and power outages, it is clear that our homes, workplaces and energy systems are not built to withstand the dire challenges of climate change and keep our people safe," said **Senate Majority Leader Kate Lieber (D - Beaverton and SW Portland)**, champion of the Resilient Efficient Buildings bills that are incorporated in HB 3409. "How we build is how we live, and these bills will give Oregon a better foundation for our future."

"This package builds on Oregon's existing climate and energy policy and sets Oregonians up for success for years to come," said **Senator Michael Dembrow (D - Portland)**, champion of the natural climate solutions bill incorporated in HB 3409. "These bills will make the large-scale impact we need to reduce emissions while lowering everyday costs for Oregonians and invest in our land and our people through incentives for everything from green technology to carbon sequestration in working lands."

"This is a pragmatic, incentive-based approach to addressing the causes and impacts of climate change in every community in Oregon," said **Senator Jeff Golden (D - Ashland)**, chair of the Senate committee on Natural Resources. "This package will invest in local solutions and economies, from studying wood waste as an alternative fuel source to local green infrastructure. I'm excited to see the greener, cleaner future the people of Oregon will build."

HB 3409 combines several important policy measures and funding for climate related programs, including:

- Programs and funding for Resilient Efficient Buildings:
 - Setting a statewide heat pump installation goal of 500,000 by 2035 and coordinating the work of state agencies related to energy efficiency (formerly SB 868).
 - Codifying Executive Order 20–04 greenhouse gas reduction standards for new buildings and funds a study on embodied carbon in construction materials (formerly SB 869)
 - Establishing statewide performance standards for existing commercial buildings and creating a grant fund for early adopters. Taking advantage of the hundreds of millions of dollars in incentives available and soon to be available for commercial buildings to improve energy efficiency (formerly SB 870).
 - Directing state agencies to lead by example in building energy use (formerly SB 871).
- \$10 million in grants for Community Resilience Hubs to improve coordination and support ongoing work by community-based organizations to build out emergency and natural disaster resilience (formerly HB 2990).
- \$6.5 million to the Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD) for grants to plan and develop community green infrastructure projects and master plans and support native seed banks or plant nurseries (formerly HB 3016).
- \$3 million for OSU to study pathways for low-carbon fuels derived from woody biomass (formerly HB 3590).
- \$3 million to the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) for distribution of a medium and heavy-duty zero-emission vehicle incentive program (formerly HB 2714).
- Creating an advisory committee to examine renewable energy and transmission siting barriers and opportunities in Oregon. Siting has been identified by multiple stakeholders as the key barrier to renewable development (formerly HB 3181).
- \$10 million to establish the Natural and Working Lands Fund to provide incentives and financial assistance to help landowners, tribes, land managers, and Environmental Justice communities adopt practices to support natural climate solutions (formerly SB 530).
- Changes the name Oregon Global Warming Commission to Oregon Climate Action Commission and modifies the membership of the commission (formerly SB 522).
- \$10 million to extend the Residential Solar Rebate Program (formerly HB 3418).
- Addressing harmful algal blooms, by directing Oregon Health Authority (OHA) and DEQ to create a strategy for monitoring and responding to harmful algal blooms (formerly HB 2647).

HB 3630 combines several important policy measures and \$4.6 million in funding for several energy related programs, including:

- Creates a navigation resource for consumers and businesses to help access federal and state energy efficiency grants and rebates (formerly HB 3166).
- Directs the Oregon Department of Energy to develop and update a comprehensive state energy strategy, to help Oregon achieve our clean energy goals (formerly HB 2534).
- Directs counties to engage in energy resilience planning to respond to the increasing incidence of grid disruption and provides grant funding from ODOE to assist this work (formerly HB 3378).
- Continues work at ODOE to provide assistance to environmental justice communities for energy projects and community capacity and will draw down significant funding from the federal Justice 40 program (formerly SB 852).

Supporting a clean and sustainable environment is a key component of [Senate Democrats' 2023 Oregon Works agenda](#).

HB 3409 and HB 3630 are some of the hundreds of bills that Senate Democrats rescued by negotiating an end to the Senate Republican walkout. Thanks to Senate Democrats showing up, doing their jobs, and delivering results for the people of Oregon, HB 3630 now moves to the Governor's desk for consideration, and HB 3409 moves to the House for concurrence.

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