

**PAM MARSH**  
**STATE REPRESENTATIVE**  
DISTRICT 5  
SOUTHERN JACKSON COUNTY



## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

April 2020

Chair Megan Decker,  
Commissioner Letha Tawney  
Commissioner Mark Thompson  
201 High St SE #100  
Salem, OR 97301

Re: Energy Trust of Oregon Cost Effectiveness Exceptions Requests for Manufactured Homes - Docket No. UM 1696

Dear Chair Megan Decker, Commissioner Letha Tawney, and Commissioner Mark Thompson,

I'm writing to convey enthusiastic support for the extension of Energy Trust of Oregon's Manufactured Home Replacement Pilot program.

Manufactured housing is one of the last affordable home options for low-income families here in Oregon. Statewide, we have over 170,000 manufactured homes, of which more than 110,000 were built before 1995 when federal standards for energy efficiency were minimal or non-existent. This has resulted in higher energy costs impacting typically lower income households. Retrofitting older manufactured homes with efficiency measures is often ineffective and expensive as the cost of improvements frequently exceeds the home's value and remaining useful life.

In order to deliver savings to a segment of the housing stock where few practical, lasting options exist, Energy Trust launched a pilot to retire aging manufactured homes and replace them with code exceeding energy-efficient new manufactured homes. The pilot aimed to build partnerships to establish a replicable model that integrates energy efficiency, alleviates poverty, and supports affordable housing investments.

Our challenge is to create an affordable financing model that enables low-income residents to upgrade to new homes. In the 2019 legislative session, the Oregon Legislature passed HB 2896, which dedicated funds to Oregon Housing and Community Services (OHCS) for manufactured home deconstruction and replacement. In concert with loan packaging from Craft3, the Energy Trust program, and soon with support from HB 2896, we will have the kind of home upgrade loan/grant package that can significantly improve the affordable housing stock for low-income Oregonians while providing the benefits of a healthy and energy efficient home.

Energy Trust's Manufactured Home Replacement program is a key element to the program contemplated in HB 2986. I hope you will join me by supporting the requested extension.

Thank you so much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Pam Marsh". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Pam

Representative House District 05

Southern Jackson County