
Testimony in OPPOSITION to SB 830

*AN ACT PROHIBITING THE USE OF
CERTAIN OUTDOOR WOOD-BURNING FURNACES*

My name is Douglas Pattison. I want to state my opposition to SB830 prohibiting use of outdoor wood-burning furnaces.

I purchased a furnace in 2005, after extensive research and have operated it each winter to heat my home and detached garage. I have burned seasoned hardwoods that I cut myself from our 15 acre property. I have operated our furnace as prescribed and have had no complaints from neighbors, only interest and encouragement.

Because this unit is the sole source of heat for my house, I **did not** burn approximately 1000 gallons of oil per year for home heating. With the outdoor wood furnace, I can **independently** heat my home comfortably for the entire winter. SB830 would take away my ability to operate the furnace and heat my home without reliance upon fossil fuels.

Prior to installing the wood furnace, I heated our home with a 1958 Arco Leader oil burner and an indoor wood stove from the 1970s, neither of which was efficient. Exhaust and fumes from each of these devices caused me to worry about carbon monoxide poisoning and the risk of fire from these indoor heating systems. The outdoor wood furnace eliminated these concerns. In addition, with the price of home heating oil and LPG increasing each year, I have saved thousands of dollars on home heating costs.

Wood burning furnaces have improved since their inception. Manufactures have made them cleaner burning, producing more heat with less wood and less smoke. Just as automobile mileage has increased and emissions decreased, outdoor wood furnaces will continue to improve with further research and redesign. Prohibiting these units will quash this technology and unnecessarily restrict personal freedoms. I urge you to oppose SB 830.

Thank you for your consideration.

Douglas Pattison
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