



To: Members of the Senate Environment and Natural Resources Committee
From: Paige Spence, Oregon Conservation Network
Date: Feb. 7, 2019

RE: Support for SB 41 – oil spill prevention fees

Chair Dembrow and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input on SB 41. On behalf of our thousands of members and supporters in Oregon, I would like to register the Oregon League of Conservation Voters' (OLCV) strong support.

OLCV coordinates the Oregon Conservation Network (OCN), a coalition of 34 not-for-profit organizations throughout the state, united to advocate for pro-conservation legislation and to fight policies that threaten our state's natural legacy. This year, broader oil train safety legislation is one of OCN's four Priorities for a Healthy Oregon. We fully support the increased fees required to do this work.

When oil is released into the environment, harmful consequences have already occurred. All oil spills are toxic and pose a significant risk to Oregon's environment, economy, public health, and historical and cultural resources. A significant oil spill could cost the state tax dollars and jobs. It could disrupt maritime shipping, recreation and tourism, and cause significant harm to fish, shellfish, and wildlife resources.

Oregon should invest heavily in spill prevention and preparedness because the consequences of an oil spill are extremely high.

OLCV strongly supports these fees in SB 41 and we urge the members of this Committee to do the same.

Sincerely,

Paige Spence
Oregon Conservation Network Director
Oregon League of Conservation Voters