Dear Chair Dembrow, Vice Chair Olsen and Members of the Senate Interim Committee on Environment and Natural Resources,

My name is Mary S. (Jesse) Ford, I'm a seminarian and retired ecologist, and I live in Philomath (Benton County). Thank you for your continued work on the critical issue of the climate emergency.

I believe it is critical to take action to slow the devastating consequences of climate change, for the health and safety of today's young people and future generations in our crowded, warming, highly interwoven world.

Oil companies are the largest source of pollution in our state and we cannot let them off the hook. As written, the current bill would pay fossil fuel polluters to continue business as usual. THIS IS NOT INTELLIGENT. In fact, it is suicidal. You/we are better than this, but/and we must come to terms with our serious addiction to fossil fuel lifeways that life as we know it on this planet can no longer afford.

What would a recovery program for fossil fuel addiction look like? It could begin with focusing investments in communities hardest hit by the climate crisis -- rural, low-income, Tribes, and communities of color. These should not be treated as minor details, but rather be centered in fossil fuel addiction recovery programs. By prioritizing economic repair to the most ravaged communities, other economic decisions will start falling into perspective.

I hope you will support changes to this bill that will result in the passage of bold climate action in 2020. Oregon can't fix the world, but we can align our actions with our intentions, and model compassionate care for ourselves and our fellow beings.

Yours sincerely,
Mary Ford
Philomath, Oregon, 97370, United State

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Please reply to Mary Ford at jessebiz@peak.org.

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