

Greetings,

My name is Elijah Cetas, and I'm campaign organizer with the Braided River Campaign, a coalition effort of residents of North and Northwest Portland, river advocates, and community organizations working to advance a vision for a climate resilient, Green Working Waterfront in The Portland Harbor.

Our campaign came together from the generational experience of communities impacted by pollution and fossil fuel storage on the Willamette River. We know that fossil fuel storage, transport, and combustion harms our communities, and disproportionately hurts communities of color and low income people in Portland. We need our state legislature to take seriously the threat of both the climate crisis and the Cascadia Subduction earthquake, which could be catastrophic for residents living near the state's Critical Energy Infrastructure hub on the Willamette. To achieve real resilience, we need to radically shift away from our dependence on fossil fuels so that we can not only transition the dangerous fossil fuel infrastructure, but bring wealth and equity to our communities through investment in river cleanup and clean energy technologies. Investment in community scale renewables and good jobs union jobs will directly benefit our neighbors- housed and unhoused-, friends, family, and community members. We strongly support this bill and the diverse, frontline led coalition that made this road possible. We urge you to pass it as written and to begin to take bold action to address the injustices of climate change and fossil fuels, and create wealth in our area.

Thank you,

Elijah Cetas

Campaign Organizer

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