

Submitter: Roberta Richards  
On Behalf Of: Community for Earth of First Unitarian Church  
Committee: House Committee On Revenue  
Measure: HB4115

To Chair Rep. Nathanson, Vice-Chairs Rep. Pham and Rep. Reschke, members of the Committee:

Community for Earth of the First Unitarian Church asks that you send the Treasury Transparency Bill, HB 4115, out of House Revenue Committee with a Do-Pass recommendation.

Community for Earth is a social justice committee of First Unitarian Church in Portland. Our denomination's spiritual grounding includes our 7th Principle: "We affirm the interconnected web of all existence of which we are a part." The greatest threat to the web of existence at present is climate change. Our denomination is committed to a just transition to a fossil-fuel free economy, and we are proud that Oregon has adopted policies and legislation that move us in the right direction.

Oregon's Treasury, however, is lagging behind. We want Oregon's investments portfolio to reflect our state's comprehensive commitment to reducing greenhouse gas emissions. This bill is a first step. It simply asks that the Oregon Treasurer tell us what fossil fuel investments, and associated risks, are held in our state's investment portfolio. This information will be valuable to the membership of Community for Earth, which includes PERS members, as we strive to understand if our state's retirement funds are being invested in alignment with our values.

We hope that the vote can be bi-partisan because transparency is a good policy for the state's investments.

Thank you for your consideration.

Roberta Richards, PERS member, on behalf of Community for Earth, First Unitarian Church