

Submitter: Ukiah Halloran-Steiner
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Revenue
Measure: HB4115

I support HB 4115 because I value transparency.

When I first learned about the Treasury Transparency Bill, I was surprised to hear that Oregonians didn't already know where the Treasury was investing state money. Last term, I took a US Government class, which taught me about the history of our government, and how past leaders fought to make our government better serving of the people and more transparent.

I believe that our state's investments reflect our values. And without knowing where our leaders are investing public money, it's hard to know what our government stands for. Are they investing in things that are good for our communities? Or are their investments harming the health and wellbeing of families and individuals across the state? Put simply, this bill allows the public to see what our state believes in.

The Treasury and OIC are supposed to serve us, and to not have the full picture of how they are using the power we have given them is concerning. Oregonians across the political spectrum support transparency in our government. This should be a nonpartisan issue.

As a 16-year-old, I worry about what the world will look like in 10, 20 or 50 years. I've already seen how extreme weather events impact rural communities, whether it's forest fires that destroy timber land or heat waves that stunt hay growth. It is necessary that we the people are aware of what industries our treasury is investing in and how they will impact our planet's climate in the years to come. By making public the climate risk assessment, you'll be doing just that.

Oregonians deserve to know what our state stands for with the investments that we trust the treasury to make. I ask you to vote for transparency and support HB 4115.