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On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Energy and Environment

Measure: SB405

There is no public outcry or backlash against the lint catchers that are found in every dryer. Yet, these are functionally the same as the high-quality microfiber filters for washing machines produced by companies like Filtrol (<https://filtrol.net/>). They do not require overly frequent replacement or cleaning. They are easy to use, proven effective, and help to keep microfibers from polluting our waterways. The amount of microfibers entering waterways from both household and industrial laundry place an extra burden on our wastewater treatment plants.

As Oregon's population continues to grow in the future, there is even more reason to consider how to ensure that our population's drinking water remains clean and free from plastic particles. This can be achieved by simply reducing the number of plastics we unintentionally shed through washing our clothes. This is not a novel concept, as many homes that use septic tanks already have these microfiber filters in place in order to avoid the clogging of pipes. Any arguments that cite ineffective filters are obtusely ignoring the fact that easy, effective washing machine filters have already been used by the general public for years. The passing of Senate Bill 405 would simply be expanding effective filtration to all washing machine sold in the state.