

Submitter: virginia feldman

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment

Measure: HB2215

Dear Climate /Energy/Environment Committee,

As a physician I ask you to oppose HB 2215 (& SB 676). As someone trained in preventive medicine, I am deeply concerned about the radioactive wastes which would be generated if these small nuclear reactors (SNRs) are allowed, as neither Oregon nor the US have methods/ sites for safe disposal of nuclear waste. Nor are any coming in the foreseeable future. SNRs actually create more radioactive waste/ KW of electricity made than conventional nuclear reactors. (Not that we want any more large ones!). So many Oregon communities are downriver from the Hanford Nuclear Reservation, the most toxic clean up site in the whole Western hemisphere-- which we are still short on cleaning up. Morally & health-wise, we must NOT create more of this waste.

This is also an equity issue: Most of the uranium mining in the US, & worldwide ,has been done in indigenous land, with indigenous peoples suffering the health consequences.

And waste storage is always proposed for areas near our low-income citizens.

Nuclear energy is a false & expensive solution to the climate crisis. It is prohibitively expensive, taking all that money away from proven, cost-effective clean energy sources-- such as solar and wind.

Do we need another Fukushima disaster in Oregon?! Even small reactors are prone to accidents. It's hard to believe we are even considering them in Oregon, after all

the knowledge we have of what Hanford did/could do, & the expensive cleanup that it would take to give even a modicum of improved safety.

Thank you, Dr. Virginia Feldman MD, FAAP