

Submitter: Soencer Woolley

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Energy and Environment

Measure: SB488

I am in complete support of this bill for several reasons. Oregon's pristine air, water and land are losing a battle to corporations that will exploit and abuse our state in the name of profits. This bill is necessary to close a regulatory loophole that allows this incinerator to exceed federal toxic pollution standards for medical waste. This bill begs the question; Is it worth it to allow this company to dangerously pollute when they have the capability to decrease their waste simply by following even the bare minimums of the federal standard?

Stricter pollution standards must be adhered to for these large medical waste incinerators. Without regulation we continue to see abuse and harmful pollution. The irony is that when they are allowed to pollute we give them a pass to take advantage of a negative feedback loop of their own creation. The sick and injured need supplies and care that creates waste. This waste needs to be disposed of properly. If it is not disposed with care and guidance it can cause harm and disease by polluting the air and water quality in the Willamette Valley, especially for low income communities of color in the vicinity of the incinerator. Their pollution is sickening Oregon residents and visitors. And now we have our completed loop.

We cannot compromise the regulations of these corporations when they are being considered as a necessity to the process of healing sick people. This kind of pollution is not a necessary compromise as much as this company would have you believe. It is the direct consequence of their profit-based decision to allow harm to their communities instead of implementing acceptable methods of prevention. Their excessive pollution is a calculated business plan and they will continue to test and expand that harm until someone stops it. Please support this bill.