

Submitter: Brady Bennon

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Energy and Environment

Measure: HB4083

I am writing to support HB 4083, the COAL Act.

Coal is one of the most polluting sources of climate damaging emissions. It is time Oregon divest itself from a source of energy that is outdated, harmful to the environment, and damaging to the health and safety of our communities.

Our state prides itself in being a leader on issues related to nature and liveability. It's shameful that we continue to invest our public employee pensions in millions of dollars of dirty energy company stocks. Coal companies are one of the major causes of climate change, and they've fouled our rivers, streams, and oceans with heavy metals.

These investments are also a losing investment. As we transition our economy away from carbon, coal companies are increasingly a risky bet, causing pension performance to drop, sticking taxpayers with the burden of keeping our retirees afloat. We should dump the investment in coal, and put those dollars into companies that benefit our society, rather than harm our communities.

Please pass the COAL Act today.

Sincerely,
Brady Bennon