

OREGON PSR

PHYSICIANS FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

February 28, 2025

To: House Committee On Emergency Management, General Government, and Veterans

Subject: Support HB 2152

Dear Chair Lively, Vice–Chair Gamba, Vice–Chair Bobby Levy, and Members of the House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment,

Oregon Physicians for Social Responsibility (Oregon PSR) is an organization of over 2,000 health professionals and public health advocates working to address the gravest threats to human health and survival. One of the gravest threats to health and safety facing Oregonians is the event of a Cascadia Subduction Zone (CSZ) earthquake in the Critical Energy Infrastructure (CEI) Hub. For this reason, we are submitting testimony in support of HB 2152. This bill would direct the Oregon Department of Energy (ODOE) to develop and implement a Statewide Geographic Diversity of Fueling Stations for Disaster Reserves Priority Action Plan.

According to the Multnomah County CEI Hub report, “Oregon will likely face an electrical blackout, extended natural gas service outages, and liquid fuel shortages in the event of a major CSZ earthquake, putting a strain on emergency response services.” This is concerning because during times of disaster, people must have access to fuel for health and life-saving purposes. A CSZ earthquake in the CEI Hub is also expected to delay earthquake recovery efforts. We still have time to prevent this. There is no doubt that a “Statewide Geographic Diversity of Fueling Stations for Disaster Reserves Priority Action Plan” is necessary. Oregon PSR strongly urges you to support HB 2152.

Sincerely,



Samantha Hernandez

Healthy Climate Program Director

