

Submitter: Roberta Richards

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Finance and Revenue

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB681

Hello. As a PERS member, I am writing to ask that you vote the Pause Act out of committee. For many reasons, I ask for your support of SB 681.

For my personal investments I work hard to find funds that do not harm people or the planet. As the climate crisis worsens, the greatest damage is being caused by the fossil fuel companies that are spewing climate pollution into our air, creating a heat trapping blanket that is destabilizing our climate. PERS is the largest source of my investments, and I am deeply troubled by the reality that my money is supporting industries which are causing planetary harm.

But on a less altruistic level, I also want a stable income in retirement, and fossil fuel companies are selling the energy of the past century. They are having a last gasp from the support of the current administration, but the rest of the world is moving on to the clean energies of the future. I would like my retirement fund to be looking to the future in its investments, not gamble on the ability of an unstable regime to prop up the energies of centuries past.

The Pause Act simply calls for no NEW investments in the fossil fuel industry for 5 years. A modest request! There are plenty of alternative investments that are future oriented. Please support SB 681 to help secure our economic and environmental future.

Thank you,  
Roberta Richards