

Thank you for the opportunity to comment in support of SB 681.

I am a member of Third Act Oregon, a climate justice group for seniors, a retiree and a PERS member.

As someone who depends on the continued stability of PERS in order to pay my monthly bills, this issue and SB 681 are personally important to me. Why should our leaders take unnecessary risks with the current and future income of those 400,000 of us who depend on payments from PERS? My belief is that we should not, especially during a time of heightened economic uncertainty.

Equally important: oil and gas, both on a collision course with our planet, are known climate risks. They must be replaced by green energy, which can only happen through green investment. The growing place of solar, for example, (now the world's cheapest source of energy,) in Oregon's energy profile is a result of our state's support of renewables. The Pause Act will allow the introduction of more such green investments, within a 5-year time frame that will ensure that they are vetted for safety and security. The same time frame will let Oregon take a closer look at the safety and returns of current fossil fuel investments.

In short, fossil fuel investment poses a double risk, financial and climate. At a time in my life when I depend on a stable income, and during a time of growing economic, climate and political instability, I feel that action must be taken now. Please vote the Pause Act out of committee. Thank you for your support of SB 681.

Sincerely,

Sheila Golden Portland, Oregon

Third Act Oregon

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