

Dear Chair Golden, Vice-chair Nash, and Members of the Committee,

I have experienced the horror of wildfires and moved to Oregon, at least partly, to avoid them. But the damage from burning fossil fuels can't be outrun. Right now, I along with other taxpayers are paying for the damage.

When you make a mess, you should clean it up. That's a long-established legal principal and it's why I support the creation of the Climate Resilience Superfund, to hold polluters accountable by making the large, out-of-state fossil fuel companies pay their fair share. From wildfires to polluted water, our communities across the state are feeling the worst of the climate crisis. Today, we Oregonians and our local governments are required to pay the cost of cleaning up the impacts of climate change. We've been footing the bill, but we didn't cause the problem. Unbelievably, fossil fuel companies continue to profit off the damage they create. It must end.

As legislators, you have the power to shift the costs from your constituents to these mega corporations. I urge you to pass SB 1541 and finally make these polluters pay for the damage they've done to communities across our state.

Jack Nicholl

Bend, Oregon

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