

Submitter: David Parker
On Behalf Of: state and local tax payers
Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources and Wildfire
Measure, Appointment or SB1541
Topic:

This is a tax-payer relief and jobs creation bill that will bring billions into Oregon to deal with the escalating costs of climate change.

Others have told you their stories of the suffering and expense of wildfires, storms, heat domes, floods, and drought made more severe by climate change. This is just the beginning; we will be dealing with more intense disasters in the coming decades.

How are we going to pay to rebuild from these disasters? How are we going to pay to prepare for more intense future events to protect our businesses and the health and safety of our citizens? Are we going to take money from schools and health care? Are we going to raise taxes at the state and local levels? Why not require the multinational companies that extracted and sold fossil fuels around the globe to pay part of the cost from their huge profits? Why should we citizens and tax-payers foot the whole bill?

This is a tax-payer relief and jobs creation bill. We can bring a few billion dollars into Oregon for an investment of a few million dollars in administrative and legal costs. That's 1000 to one, usually considered a good bet. Vermont, New York, and now Maine have shown the way. Why not Oregon? Why hold back?