



The Climate Reality Project®

PORTLAND CHAPTER

Dear Chair Golden, Vice Chair Nash, and Members of the Senate Natural Resources and Wildfire Committee,

I am writing on behalf of the Climate Reality Project Portland Chapter to urge you to support the Climate Resilience Superfund bill (SB 1541). We are an organization committed to climate justice and public health, and we know that average Oregonians can't keep bearing the cost of the climate crisis. This bill recognizes that the global, out-of-state fossil fuel companies – like tobacco companies – have known and hidden the consequences of their pollution for decades. It allocates responsibility based on that pollution and makes these polluters pay their fair share to address the damage that they have caused.

Today we are paying for damage they caused, whether from increasing wildfires, drought, floods, heat domes, ice storms, sea level rise...it is a long and increasingly alarming list. We pay, and our cities, counties, and state pay, while these companies make billions of dollars in profits and receive government subsidies. It's wrong that ordinary people are stuck with the bill for the clean-up, for the increasing costs for homeowners insurance, for the higher utility bills, and for the rising costs of food. The main polluters must pay their fair share.

The funds generated by the Climate Resilience Superfund will be used to make Oregon more resilient to wildfires, upgrade homes with energy efficient heating, cooling and weatherization, strengthen transportation and the electrical power grid, invest in agriculture and fisheries, and more, while ensuring that the communities most impacted by the climate crisis benefit the most.

Now is the time to make polluters pay for the consequences of their deception. Oregon is not alone in recognizing that large corporations should be held accountable for their actions – there is a national bill in congress; there are 12 states with Make Polluters Pay bills up for consideration; and two states, Vermont and NY, have already passed these bills. It is now our turn to turn the page and stop these companies from freely polluting our environment, harming our health, and jeopardizing our children's future.

Thank you for your time and your service,

Amanda Duncan
Co-Chair of the Legislative Committee
Climate Reality Project Portland Chapter

About The Climate Reality Project Portland Chapter

The Climate Reality Project (CRP) Portland Chapter is a local, volunteer-led chapter of The Climate Reality Project, an international nonprofit of 5 million members led by climate leader and former US Vice President Al Gore, whose mission is to catalyze global solutions to the climate crisis. Our legislative committee bases its advocacy on CRP's 5 pillars: a just transition to clean energy, zero carbon transportation, climate justice and public health, green communities, and a fair, representative democracy.
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