



## Northwest Pulp & Paper ASSOCIATION

February 6, 2026

The Honorable Jeff Golden  
Chair  
Senate Committee on Natural Resources  
and Wildfire  
900 Court St. NE, S-415  
Salem, OR 97301

*Re: Opposition to SB 1541 (Climate Superfund Cost Recovery Program)*

Dear Chair Golden and Committee Members:

On behalf of the Northwest Pulp & Paper Association (NWPPA), please accept these written comments on the above-referenced bill. Unfortunately, time ran out during today's hearing and, although, we were signed up and in the queue, were not able to provide remote oral testimony.

NWPPA is a 70-year-old regional trade association representing a total of 10 member companies and 12 pulp and paper mills in Washington, Oregon and Idaho – 5 of which are located in Oregon. NWPPA member mills provide approximately 8,000 predominantly union-backed, family-wage jobs and are often the largest employers and taxpayers in rural Oregon counties, providing a 3:1 job multiplier and providing critical funding for public schools, EMS services, etc.

We write today in opposition to SB 1541.

SB 1541 will create real risks and potentially unquantifiable indirect cost increases for our member mills. As part of Oregon's forest products sector, our member mills are customers of various supply chain resources that use and rely upon transportation fuels, like trucking and shipping.

This legislation will create significant additional cost increases for transportation fuels, which will be passed on to our member mills impacting their Scope 3 costs, making mill operating cost challenges even greater in Oregon.

Oregon's pulp and paper mills are significantly trade-exposed and compete directly for market share with mills in other parts of the U.S., China, Indonesia, and South America who do not have these kinds of carbon pricing and liability programs. If passed, this bill would further erode Oregon mills' ability to compete regionally, nationally and internationally.

Since Oregon's pulp and paper mills are highly trade-exposed facilities, this bill also creates great risk of greenhouse gas and jobs leakage, with possible additional pulp and paper production shifts out of Oregon to other jurisdictions.

Additional pulp and paper production shifts out of Oregon – which already boasts one of the lowest carbon footprints in the United States – would in-fact create a net increase of global greenhouse gas emissions, making the global challenge ever worse. We believe we can all agree that this is not the goal.

Since 1997, we've seen a **total loss of 7 pulp and paper mills** in Oregon: International Paper in Reedsport; Weyerhaeuser in North Bend; Boise Cascade/Cascades Tissue in St. Helens; International Paper in Albany; Blue Heron in Oregon City; SP Fiber Technologies in Newberg; and West Linn Paper Co./Willamette Falls Paper in West Linn.

We must protect these mills and family-wage jobs and stop this trend in Oregon.

Oregon is already in the process of implementing a carbon pricing system (Climate Protection Program Rule), along with several other climate policies like low carbon fuel standards, etc. which are also increasing these Scope 2 and Scope 3 costs.

For these reasons, we oppose this costly bill and ask that the committee reconsider its approach.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Christian McCabe  
Executive Director