

Submitter: Scott Shurtleff
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources and Wildfire
Measure, Appointment or SB1541
Topic:

The impacts of climate change, with a hotter and drier environment, are here. These impacts will only get more severe in the future. Oregon needs to accelerate our pace towards mitigation and building resilience.

For example, many Oregon households will need summer cooling. With heat waves the leading cause of death from weather events, this is an urgent matter of public health. The longer we wait, there will be more preventable visits to emergency rooms and preventable deaths from heat exposure.

Household cooling is only one resilience need among many. Oregon needs a reliable and dedicated source of funding for this vital, life-saving work. This fee on the fossil fuel companies, that are hugely profitable even today, is exactly the right source to generate the funds that we need. This fee places the cost on the entities that have caused, and are continuing to worsen, this crisis.

We must act now; we cannot wait another year. Please advance SB 1541 with a 'do pass' recommendation.