

February 6, 2026

Senator Jeff Golden, Chair,
Senator Todd Nash, Vice-Chair
Senate Committee on Natural Resources and
Wildfire

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

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My name is David Browder and I live in Jacksonville, Oregon. I am writing in support of Senate Bill 1541 the Climate Resilience Superfund Bill. I am concerned about climate change and the resulting inequities for the residents of Oregon. I live in an urban – wildland interface. I have seen my insurance rates go up, neighbors lose insurance coverage, and friends lose their houses. I back SB 1541 because the potential scale of the costs to address climate change far exceed what Oregon and its citizens can afford. The bill aims to lessen the burden on those affected by the consequences of climate change while ensuring that fossil fuel companies that profit greatly from environmentally harmful products are held responsible.

I support SB 1541 because:

1. Doing nothing is NOT an option. The current situation is unacceptable. It subsidizes fossil fuel companies at the expense of all Oregonians. We are currently paying for the harm we suffer while the fossil fuel companies enjoy record profits. We cannot hope to shoulder the future costs of greenhouse gas pollution.
2. The bill is about fairness and fiscal responsibility. It holds accountable the corporations that are most responsible for over one billion metric tons of global greenhouse emissions in Oregon between January 1, 1995, and December 31, 2024.
3. It represents a just and equitable way to provide funds to adapt and mitigate climate change. It requires the corporations to pay into a state fund a proportion of the cost of climate change in Oregon. It uses science-based models to determine the amount these corporations must pay based on the cost of the damage their greenhouse gases have imposed on the state.
4. Funds will be allocated to climate resilience and adaptation along with wildfire prevention and mitigation. Investments supported by the Climate Superfund reduce



health risks linked to pollution, protect workers, and stabilize local economies affected by climate-driven disruptions.

I join organizations such as Southern Oregon Climate Action Now, the Sierra Club, the Make Polluters Pay coalition, and many others in urging the committee to support SB 1541. The bill shifts the costs of climate change from Oregon taxpayers and communities to the corporations most responsible for the climate pollution. The bill's creation of a superfund will help the communities already facing the worst climate impacts—wildfires, extreme heat, flooding, drought, and infrastructure damage. SB 1541 restores balance by aligning responsibility with impact and recognizing that fairness demands accountability.