

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

Dear Chair Golden, Vice-chair Nash, and Members of the Committee, As the young folks are saying, they've been taught since early childhood that "When you make a mess, you should clean it up." That's why I support the creation of the Climate Resilience Superfund, to hold polluters accountable by making the large fossil fuel companies pay their fair share. These companies have known since my childhood (and I am no longer young) that the carbon dioxide released into our atmosphere by burning fossil fuels was causing planetary warming, and instead of re-thinking what this might do to life on our planet, they began pouring money and effort into disinformation campaigns to convince Americans that the whole idea of being able to damage our planet was preposterous. This worked well for their ability to make money, but, as most people now realize, it has been devastating to living things in Oregon, in the USA, and on all the Earth. Increasing drought, longer and longer stretches of hot hot weather in summer, not enough snow to go skiing or snowshoeing in winter, more frequent and larger wildfires, groundwater polluted through the processing of fossil fuels: communities across the state have been damaged by our climate crisis. The costs of these impacts of climate change have been paid by us Oregonians and our local governments. We've been footing the bill while fossil fuel companies rake in the profits. That must end. As legislators, you have the power to shift the costs from your constituents to these mega corporations. I urge you to pass SB 1541 and finally make these polluters pay for the damage they've done to communities across our state. Very Sincerely, Kay Firor Cove, Oregon