

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

I am submitting my testifying today as a member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church's Sacred Organizing Coalition. I have lived in Oregon for 56 years, and am a retired advance practice nurse, mother and grandmother. I have always been taught if you make a mess, you clean it up. This should also be true for corporations and fossil fuel companies which cause damage to our environment as part of doing business. I want my grandchildren, and all Oregonians, and creatures to have safe drinking water, clean rivers, lakes, oceans, and clean air to breathe. In the past year the Trump administration's actions have decimated environmental protections to such an extent that rules protecting our natural resources either no longer exist or will no longer be enforced. This means that we can expect a future with more climate related disasters. In addition, FEMA is scaling back support for preparedness for climate-related disasters leaving us ill-prepared to deal with the next inevitable event. This makes it even more urgent that Oregonians hold big business accountable for the damage they incur to the environment. Yes, these businesses have shareholders that is why they will tell you that they shouldn't be obligated to carry the cost of the damage they cause. These shareholders, however, take on risk when investing in a corporation. In the long run I think that this bill will incentivize polluting corporations to find ways to do business while preserving and protecting our environment. I implore you to support SB1541 for all Oregonians and bring this measure forward for a vote today. LuAnn Staul BSN MN