

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

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

I have lived my whole life in Oregon, my parents were here when Tom McCall was Governor, and Oregon was on the front lines of conservation and environmental leadership, the bottle bill and open beach legislation, were just two of the visionary pieces of public policy that were enacted. Oregon used to be clean there used to be signs that said keep Oregon green along the highways...It seems as if we have lost much of what made Oregon a leader in environmental policy as pressures to bend to big business took hold and money poured into politics that had nothing to do with the quality of life and everything to do with profits. None of this excuses the environmental exploitation that was and still is part of Oregon history, like the over-fishing in Astoria, the loss of old growth forests by irresponsible logging, over-damming of our rivers and the erosion of marine eco systems! But we know better now, we know the consequences, we have better more sustainable solutions for energy use, land conservation, water protection, and wild fire mitigation ... The question is do we HAVE THE WILL ? THE COURAGE? THE POLITICAL LEADERSHIP? The businesses and profiteers who dis-spoil OUR NATURAL RESOURCES should PAY with money, time, jail, reputation and public scrutiny! THESE COMPANIES AND INDIVIDUALS SHOULD BE RECOGNIZED FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR COLLECTIVE MISERY ... because the best deterrent to this shameful behavior is that they are pitted and held to account !

Erin Marshall
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