

Submitter: Robert Kugler
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,

In June of 2024, I was among those who led the first effort to get this right in Oregon: When you make a mess, you should clean it up. That's why I supported and worked to pass SB 1187 in the 2025 session; it's why I am fully behind SB 1541, legislation to create the Climate Resilience Superfund; and it's why I will push for this legislation or any other that holds climate polluters accountable by making the large, out-of-state fossil fuel companies pay their fair share.

I hardly need to rehearse the argument again, but here it is: from wildfires to polluted water, we've watched as communities across the state have felt the worst of our climate crisis. For too long, the cost of cleaning up the impacts of climate change has been the responsibility of us Oregonians and our local governments. We've been footing the bill and worse, watching our communities suffer, while fossil fuel companies rake in the profits and pay nothing of the record try costs let alone the heartbreak of ruined landscapes, broken lives, lost wealth, and rising anxiety about the future.

As legislators, you have the power to shift the costs from your constituents to these mega corporations. I urge you to at least get SB 1541 out of committee and to Ways and Means so we get a fiscal on the legislation and take at least that important step toward finally making these polluters pay for the damage they've done to communities across our state.

Thank you for your work.

Rob Kugler
West Linn