

Submitter: Neil Penn
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 am a 73 year old semi retired family therapist, who takes a brisk walks 4-5 times/per week to maintain my cardio-vascular health. Often while walking I run into other elderly persons and converse with them. From my professional training it's clear that for many of them are lonely and this is one of their few social interactions. When there are poor air quality alerts the results are further isolation. Often the cause of poor air quality is forest fires. I have only been in Oregon two years and during the forty years I lived in California there were numerous forest fires. Many of these were caused by the neglect of substations and power grids by Pacific Gas and Electric. The worst one being the fire that devastated Paradise Ca. Only when PG&E was forced to pay costly lawsuits did they begin to take preventive measures that decreased the frequency of forest fires. Clearly the proposed Climate Resilience Superfund bill in Oregon will motivate large corporations to take preventive actions which decrease forest fires.

Respectfully Yours,
Neil Penn MFT