

Submitter: Rev. Sara Gross Samuelson  
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, The message we have taught our children for years holds true for us as grown ups: 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, out-of-state fossil fuel companies pay their fair share. 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 while fossil fuel companies rake in the profits. That must end. As a pastor in the Portland Metro area, I serve youth and adults who are passionate about preserving an inheritance of rich Oregon outdoors for the next generation. In particular, the youth that I accompany fear for their own future and for the scarcity of their inheritance with climate disasters on the rise. I am having to dig deeper than ever before into our tradition's faith narratives to leverage hope and action. 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. Please take action on SB 1541 for the sake of the future of all Oregonians. Peace, Rev. Sara Gross Samuelson Milwaukie, OR resident Pastor in East Multnomah County