



February 6, 2026

Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Wildfire,
Oregon State Capitol
900 Court St. NE
Salem Oregon 97301

Re: Support for SB 1541

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

Climate Solutions is a regional non-profit working to accelerate clean energy solutions to the climate crisis.

We support SB 1541 establishing the Climate Resilience Superfund to protect Oregonians from continuing to bear the costs of fossil fuel driven climate change.

Oregonians are already bearing the costs of fossil fuel caused disasters, including the direct costs of disaster recovery, and the long term costs of reduced productivity and economic activity. Oregonians have spent over \$35 billion to recover from storms, droughts, wildfires and floods between 1995 and 2024 (the period covered by SB 1541).

In addition to these direct costs, climate change and disasters have weakened our economy and made Oregon families less secure. Research suggests that climate change may reduce Oregon's gross domestic product by \$7,500 per Oregonian per year. This impact trickles out into all of our communities through reduced prosperity, and less funding for essential programs like schools. On top of all of this climate change has driven up costs for us all through higher energy bills, increased insurance costs and more.

For years, Big Polluters have opposed or delayed climate policy to reduce emissions and prevent the disasters we are facing today. Their delays and denials have put Oregon in the position we are in now. We need to take action to reduce pollution and mitigate the *future* damages of climate change through programs like the Climate Protection Program. But we also have to support Oregonians in *bearing the harms and costs they are facing today* because of the pollution these companies caused.

Big Polluters have stuck Oregonians with the bill for their pollution, and we are paying it every day with homes lost to fire and floods, school days lost from heat events, increased



insurance premiums, increased energy bills, crops lost to heat and drought, and tourism lost to smoke and lack of snow.

Passing SB 1541 would place these costs where they belong, with the companies that caused the damage. Inaction leaves these costs with those who can least afford to pay, Oregon families and taxpayers.

Thank you for your consideration of this important legislation.

Sincerely,

Claire Prihoda
Buildings Policy Manager
Climate Solutions