

Submitter: JAMES MARQUARD
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4046

My wife and I are writing to urge opposition to HB 4046.

Oregon's financial situation is one of many reasons to oppose the study of small modular nuclear reactors. The study, that HB 4046 proposes would be made up by raising "public" (aka private corporations with a financial stake in the outcome) as well as Federal funds. Any State funds, ODOE staff time, and Climate Change imperatives, should be directed at renewable energy instead.

Another is the Oregon 1980 Ballot Measure, after the expensive debacle known as the Trojan Nuclear Plant, has kept nuclear power plants out of our State. This should remain a clear signal that even studying nuclear power plants is unpopular, unnecessary, and not needed especially now.

Another is a history of fraudsters pushing the promise of small modular nuclear in our Country. The story of NuScale was one. TerraPower is another. And now, X-Energy. All of these companies have taken tremendous amounts of public money in pilot projects and more. Monies that have yielded virtually nothing in return.

We have Climate change happening. In Oregon, the Nation, and the world needs to focus resources now, not ten or twenty years from now and deploying clean, inexpensive energy. Not nuclear that is expensive and produces nuclear waste that has no clear disposal site and will remain radioactive for thousand of years. This alone should end any discussion of studying nuclear here in the Northwest. HB 4046 should be Dead on Arrival.

This 2026 Act, is NOT necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, and safety. There should be NO EMERGENCY, in as far as this Act is concerned. The emergency that should be addressed instead is the continued reliance on fossil fuels that we need to reduce and replace as quickly as possible with renewables. No to any new nuclear in the Northwest. the Hanford Reservation provides ample reasons for this.

Again, we urge you to reject the proponents of this measure. Vote against any and all efforts to pass it into law.

Thank you for your consideration.