

Submitter: Elene Gleason

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4046

I have been a resident of Oregon for more than 25 years and I am opposed to this bill. This bill is not about a neutral evaluation of nuclear power, something that has been heavily studied over the years. Nor is it a good-faith effort to identify the best solutions to Oregon's energy challenges. It does not call for a comprehensive assessment of all renewable alternatives or other strategies to address growing demand (including the demand driven by energy-intensive data centers).

Instead, it highlights and elevates nuclear power and positions it for advancement. In doing so, it creates a pathway for industry-backed interests to gain a foothold in Oregon and return in future sessions with proposals to weaken or repeal our state's longstanding moratorium on new nuclear reactors, including renewed efforts to exempt Umatilla County.

Oregon voters established that moratorium for a reason. We should not allow an industry-funded "study" to be the first step toward dismantling it.