

Oregon Brownfield Coalition

House Bill 2575, Brownfields Tax Credit

The Oregon Brownfield Coalition is a group of more than 50 public, private and nonprofit organizations dedicated to finding solutions to the statewide problem of brownfield contamination. Members of the Coalition have supported the creation of new tools through legislative proposals to advance brownfield remediation and cleanup across Oregon. Formed in 2014, Coalition members have successfully advocated for bills in the Oregon Legislature and supported other bills introduced by outside parties.

Past successes

2015: Recapitalization of Business Oregon's Brownfields Redevelopment Fund

2015: Passage of HB 2734, authorizing local governments to create brownfields land bank authorities

2016: Passage of HB 4084, authorizing local governments to offer property tax incentives for brownfield cleanup and redevelopment

2019: Support HB 2575 to create a tax credit to incentivize brownfield cleanups

A brownfields tax credit would allow property owners and developers to reduce state income taxes by a percentage of the costs of brownfield cleanup. This incentive can help offset risks and costs of cleanup, especially for sites that would otherwise remain polluted. A tax credit can:

- apply to landowners (public, private, nonprofit) who did not cause the contamination of their property
- have a per-project cap and an annual program cap
- enable property owners to obtain financing for cleanup
- offer incentives for landowners to provide additional public benefits beyond the cleanup itself
- require property owners to conduct their remediation subject to DEQ oversight
- be designed to enhance cleanup and redevelopment opportunities in rural and distressed areas

A tax credit program for brownfields would focus on any work done to assess and cleanup properties, including assessment, demolition, remediation and disposal. A tax credit would give a statewide incentive to property owners and developers that might not otherwise explore development on known brownfields. The credit could increase development feasibility of key industrial and employment sites, as well as redevelopment opportunities statewide. Similar tax credits elsewhere have created thousands of jobs with relatively little public investment.

Coalition members

February 2019

1000 Friends of Oregon	Dudek	Oregon Opportunity Network
Albina Community Bank	Groundwork Portland	Oregon Public Ports Association
Allen Enterprises 2000	IBEW	Oregon State Building & Construction Trades Council
Associated Oregon Industries	Jordan Ramis	Oregon State Chamber of Commerce
Association of Oregon Counties	League of Oregon Cities	PBS Engineering + Environmental
Audubon Society of Portland	Maul, Foster & Alongi	Port of Portland
Beyond Toxics	Metro	Portland Business Alliance
Black Helterline LLP	Multnomah County	Portland Development Commission
Business Oregon	Multnomah County Environmental Health	Portland State University
Cardno	Native Plant Society of Oregon	Regional Solutions Center
Cities of Bend, Beaverton, Eugene, Gresham, Hillsboro, Medford, Milwaukie, Portland, Salem, Tigard, Wilsonville	NEEK Engineering	Stoel Rives
Clackamas County	Neighborhood Partnerships	Sussman Shank LLP
Clackamas County Business Alliance	Northeast Oregon Economic Development District	Terraphase Engineering
Columbia Corridor Association	Northwest Environmental Business Council	Tonkon Torp
DEQ	Oregon Business Authority	US EPA Brownfields Program - Oregon
Durham & Bates Insurance Brokers	Oregon Business Council	Verde NW
GEI Consultants	Oregon Coalition of Police/Sheriffs	Washington County
	Oregon Health Authority	Westside Economic Alliance
	Oregon Home Builders Association	US Army Corps of Engineers

Contact

Oregon Brownfield Coalition
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