

From the Desk of
Senator
Janeen Sollman

ASAP

APPLIANCE STANDARDS
AWARENESS PROJECT



NW Energy Coalition
for a clean and affordable energy future



Oregon
Environmental
Council



TOGETHER FOR NATURE

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Please vote YES on House Bill 2531 to phase-out the sale of new fluorescent light bulbs in Oregon.

This bill will protect Oregonians from the unnecessary threat of mercury exposure from breakages of mercury-containing fluorescent light bulbs while also saving consumers money on utility bills. It can also serve as a climate protection initiative, accelerating the transition to a low-carbon economy through increased use of energy-efficient LED lighting solutions.

LED bulbs that replace mercury-containing bulbs are widely available and an easy retrofit solution that will save Oregon residents and businesses money year after year. A new study published jointly by the American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy (ACEEE), the Appliance Standards Awareness Project (ASAP), CLASP, and the Clean Lighting Coalition has found that LEDs are now widely available as drop-in replacements for fluorescent bulbs of all shapes and sizes.

In addition, LED bulbs do not contain mercury, last about two times longer than fluorescents and cut energy use in half. A typical school would see about \$24,000 in lifecycle savings by switching to LEDs, while a typical office would see about \$6,000 in savings.

Oregon would not be alone in recognizing that the time has come to phase out fluorescents. The European Union has already set a market precedent by adopting regulations phasing out general purpose fluorescent lighting across Europe in 2023. The states of California and Vermont have already passed clean lighting legislation in similar timeframes as this bill.

Mercury-containing fluorescent light bulbs are a threat to public health and our environment, an economic waste, and a hindrance to meeting our climate goals. For these reasons, Oregon should immediately adopt House Bill 2531 to phase out the sale of the most common mercury light bulbs, allowing efficient, cost-effective, mercury-free LED lighting to replace them.