

Submitter: Shirlee Geiger

On Behalf
Of:

Committee: House Committee On Emergency Management, General
Government, and Veterans

Measure: HB2601

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on HB 2601.

I strongly support HB 2601: The Treasury Investment and Climate Protection Act. I am about to retire from teaching at Portland Community College. I started there in 1982. It has been a wonderful way to make a living. I have looked forward to the financial security provided by PERS, without ever paying a lot of attention to how PERS actually operates.

As I have learned more, I have been appalled. I learned, for example, that the Oregon State Treasury (OST) is invested in fossil fuels with at least \$5.3. DESPITE all the climate chaos we are suffering.

I am no expert on investment strategies, but it sure seems to me that, financially, fossil fuels are risky. Safer and greener investment opportunities abound. Treasury managers must protect all of Oregon's investments for the long term, including public employee retirement funds such as PERS.

That is why I support HB 2601, the Treasury Investment and Climate Protection Act (TICPA) co-sponsored by Senators Jeff Golden and Michael Dembrow, and Representatives Courtney Neron, Maxine Dexter, Rob Nosse, Khanh Pham, Jules Walters, and Mark Gamba. I ask YOU to support it, too!!

Oregon has been a leader in legislation to move the state to a green future; the Treasury must stop undermining that legislation by funding fossil fuels. HB 2601 protects Oregonians' public pensions and our environment.

Thank you for your support of HB 2601. Oregon needs to be a leader.

Sincerely,

Shirlee Geiger
Grievance Officer for Portland Community College Federation of Faculty and
Academic Professionals
Instructor in Philosophy
Portland Community College