

Submitter: Lilly Hankins

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 am a PERS member. I work as a mental health provider in community mental health, working with youth. And I'm a parent to a 6- year old. In my professional and personal life, I'm very aware of how our young people are set to inherit a planet whose climate is growing more and more unstable as we continue to invest in and burn fossil fuels. Which is why I strongly support HB 2601: The Treasury Investment and Climate Protection Act.

I am appalled, as a PERS member and beneficiary, that the Oregon State Treasury (OST) is propping up fossil fuels with at least \$5.3 B (and probably far more, as 60% of PERS dollars are in secret private investments) despite all the climate chaos we are already suffering- wildfires, droughts, dying forests, and more.

Financially, fossil fuels are a risky long-term investment. Safer and greener investment opportunities abound, and I want my retirement money invested in them, sooner than later. Treasury managers must protect all of Oregon's investments for the long term, including public employee retirement funds such as PERS.

To ensure OST to act responsibly, please 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.

The TICPA immediately ends new OST fossil fuel investments, and phases out current investments in fossil fuels by 2035. To uncloak those private investments, the TICPA also mandates increased transparency.

Oregon is 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 in stopping these financially and environmentally risky investments.

Sincerely,

Lilly Hankins