

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on HB 2601. I live in Aloha, OR -- a part of unincorporated Washington County. My son attends school in a local public high school and my husband works in the cafeteria at our local elementary school (and he's a PERS member). I'm a nurse who cares for your family and friends in a local hospital.

My family is committed to our community, our local UU church, and our neighbors around us. We show this through volunteering with the Hillsboro Parks District and being a Scout family engaged in service to the community. In other words, **we are your neighbors and friends.**

I strongly support HB 2601: The Treasury Investment and Climate Protection Act.

I am upset on behalf of my husband, a PERS member, 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 secrecy-cloaked private investments) despite all the climate chaos we are suffering.

I go for walks in my neighborhood daily and watch as the long, hot summers and heat dome events are dooming the trees all around me! **We need to find safer and greener investment opportunities. Financially, fossil fuels are a risky long-term investment.**

Treasury managers must protect all of Oregon's investments for the long term, including public employee retirement funds such as PERS. We are your neighbors and friends. We are all in this together!

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. These actions are so important as we all face the future together.

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.

The time is NOW. We can do this.

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

Sincerely,

Lauri Watkins (Aloha, OR)