

Dear Chair Grayber, Vice-Chair Lewis, Vice-Chair Tran, and members of the House Committee on Energy Management, General Government, and Veterans

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on HB 2601. My name is David De La Torre, I am writing on behalf of Oregon Physicians for Social Responsibility (PSR). **We strongly support HB 2601: The Treasury Investment and Climate Protection Act.** We are an organization guided by the values and expertise of healthcare and public health, OPSR works to protect human life from the gravest threats to health and survival. We are an organization of over 2,600 health professionals and public health advocates statewide working collaboratively with community partners to educate and advocate for societal and policy change that protects human health. Oregon PSR is also a proud member of the Divest Oregon coalition because we believe that divesting from the fossil fuel industry is an important step forward towards a healthier and responsible climate future.

We are facing a climate crisis that is exacerbated by the continued use of fossil fuels. It is disturbing that the treasury invests at least \$5.3 billion in the harmful and financially risky fossil fuel industry. Oregon is a leader in 100% clean energy legislation. We ask that investments in its public employees should also reflect this foresight. We hold that investment of fossil fuel industries are incompatible with our state's commitments as well as the security of our planet and people. These investments are in fact a risky business for the wellbeing of our environment and of public employees.

**HB 2601 would put an end to these investments and create more transparency in future Oregon treasury investments. We thus urge you to pass this important legislation.**

Sincerely,

David De La Torre

Healthy Climate Program Director

Oregon Physicians for Social Responsibility

The US affiliate of International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War, Recipient of the 1985 Nobel Peace Prize

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