

Submitter: Lucy Hitchcock  
On Behalf Of: Unitarian Universalists for a Just Economic Commun  
Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means  
Measure: SB5506

Clean air and water are the right of people and wildlife on this earth. We need to reinstitute and expand the concept of The Commons to restore health and equality of access to environmental wellbeing.

SB 488A is an obvious start to restore clean air in our region. It is an inexpensive pilot project to monitor, on a regular (not only annual) basis, the toxins emitted from the Covanta Marion waste incinerator. It insures public reporting of the results so that any necessary changes to the process can be made and our populations kept safe.

It is alarming to learn the medical waste and plastic refuse toted here is 90% from as far away as Canada and California by trucks emitting fossil fuel pollution as if Oregon was an OK dumping ground for what those states do not want in their air and water. And Oregon has located it adjacent to agricultural areas and their farmworkers. NIMBY? Speaking as a minister, these are ethical issues that should not go unnoticed and repaired.

In Oregon we are committed to environmental quality and addressing economic inequality. SB 488A will enable us to observe Cleaner Air Oregon regulations that have been neglected and restore our pride in an Oregon that is in the forefront of care for our environment and our people. Please pass and fully fund SB 488A.

Thank you for protecting Oregon's Commons, Rev. Dr. Lucy Hitchcock