

Submitter: Ariel Knox

On Behalf
Of:

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

Measure: HB4083

Dear Chair Dacia Grayber and Committee Members,

I am writing to express my strong support for HB 4083, the COAL Act, as a concerned Oregonian and advocate for responsible investment practices.

As a resident of Oregon and a member of the community, I believe it is imperative that we safeguard the fiscal stability of our state's investments, including the pensions of over 400,000 Oregonians. The COAL Act presents a crucial opportunity to divest our state's holdings from dirty coal, aligning with our commitment to a sustainable and equitable future.

The evidence is clear: coal is no longer a prudent investment. California's decision to remove coal from its CalPERS portfolio resulted in significant returns, while Oregon has incurred losses of \$340 million due to coal investments. It is time for Oregon to follow suit and prioritize investments that support our long-term financial health and environmental well-being.

Furthermore, the COAL Act represents a responsible and achievable approach to addressing the urgent challenge of climate change. By phasing out investments in coal and halting new investments, we can mitigate financial risks and contribute to a cleaner, healthier future for generations to come.

I urge the committee to support HB 4083 and take decisive action to protect our state's investments and advance our commitment to environmental stewardship. Thank you for your attention to this critical issue.

Sincerely,

Ariel Knox
Keizer, Oregon
Oregonizers