

Submitter: Bonnie New

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Energy and Environment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB88

I am writing in support of HB88. It's outrageous that our large for-profit utilities are directly adding millions of dollars of "junk" onto the utility bills of OR customers every year. This affects me directly, and many others with even lesser resources. Expenses for consultants, lobbyists, lawyers, advertising, and industry association fees are costs of business that should come out of company profits, not our pockets.

OR is not the only state with this problem, and not the only state where residents are fighting it. More than a dozen states are looking at legislation similar to SB 88 this year. Colorado, Maine, and Connecticut have already passed laws to get the junk, like corporate lobbyist fees, out of customers' rates.

State leaders should be concerned with removing undue burdens on working families and small businesses. Cutting these "junk" charges from our utility bills is an easy way to do so, and to encourage more honest and appropriate business practices on the part of our for-profit utilities.

Thanks you.