

OREGON PSR

PHYSICIANS FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

February 28, 2025

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

Subject: Support HB 2949

Dear Chair Lively, Vice–Chair Gamba, Vice–Chair Bobby Levy, and Members of the House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment,

Oregon Physicians for Social Responsibility (Oregon PSR) is an organization of over 2,000 health professionals and public health advocates working to address the gravest threats to human health and survival. One of the gravest threats to health and safety facing Oregonians is the event of a Cascadia Subduction Zone (CSZ) earthquake in the Critical Energy Infrastructure (CEI) Hub. For this reason, we are submitting testimony in support of HB 2949. This bill would direct the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) to contract a study on financial assurance requirements for bulk and liquid fuel terminals.

Financial assurance would require that a business and or service providers – not the consumer or taxpayers – bears financial responsibility for costs of a possible accident or spill. According to the Multnomah County CEI Hub report, cleanup costs from an oil spill as a result of a Cascadia Subduction Zone (CSZ) earthquake are projected to be between \$109 million to \$1.4 billion. Do not let taxpayers foot the bill for another fossil fuel infrastructure disaster. Oregon PSR strongly urges you to support HB 2949.

Sincerely,



Samantha Hernandez

Healthy Climate Program Director



Oregon Physicians for Social Responsibility
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