

Submitter: Roger Knudson

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Energy and Environment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1187

I support this bill for many reasons, including the following:

1. By requiring fossil fuel companies to pay their fair share of past damages from climate change during 1995-2024, the bill will save Oregonians taxpayer dollars.
2. "Polluter pays" is a core principle of environmental law. It reflects basic fairness. "You break it, you buy it" is a rule we all know.
3. Presently, Oregon taxpayers must pay all of the costs of climate change, even though fossil fuel companies make billions in profits. Fossil fuel companies should finally start to pay their part of the costs.
4. Only very large companies that sold oil, gas, and coal in Oregon will be required to pay.
5. Funds will be used to finance climate change adaptation and resilience projects within the state.
6. 40% of the funds collected are dedicated to frontline communities most exposed to climate damages. 30% are dedicated to making Oregon more resilient to wildfires.

I urge you to vote in favor of this bill!