

Submitter: Carroll Johnston

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Energy and Environment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1067

Please vote in favor of SB 1067. Since the municipal solid waste incinerator in Brooks has ceased operation, there is no longer adequate reason to give Marion County control over the flow of solid waste within the County. Marion County control was originally awarded to ensure that the incinerator received sufficient waste to continue operating, but that resulted in citizens in Salem and other Marion County cities paying higher rates for trash pick up than citizens in other counties while Marion County used the incinerator as a source of revenue that was equivalent to a tax that the affected taxpayers did not get an opportunity to vote for or against. It also resulted in toxic pollution from the incinerator contaminating areas downwind. Marion County Commissioners have consistently shown disregard for the incinerator's toxic pollution and its contribution to climate change. I watched a video of one Commissioner actually making fun of the whole concept that humans contribute to climate change. Climate change deniers should not be in control of one of the major contributing sources of greenhouse gases.

Cities should be allowed to make better choices regarding management of waste produced within their city limits. They can come up with far better choices than they had when forced to send their trash to the incinerator. They should be given that opportunity so I urge you to pass SB 1067.