

I write in support of SB 1187. Let me share with you my personal interest in the bill and why I feel so strongly that it should be enacted.

This bill is fair

- It's a basic rule in any home, classroom, workplace or neighborhood: make a mess, clean it up.
- This idea isn't new: since the 1980s Superfund laws have made corporations pay for the costs their pollution causes, even when they didn't know their product was polluting.
- Internal industry documents prove that for decades fossil fuel corporations did know the use of their products would contribute to climate change induced disasters, and they should be responsible for helping to clean up the resulting mess.
- The good news is that the money is there to help cover the costs of clean-up, adaptation and resilience that will save lives and reduce costs in the future.
- In 2023 alone Big Oil made [over 172 BN](#) dollars just in the United States. Fossil fuel industry has the money to pay for its pollution.
- Without Big Oil doing its part, Oregon's citizens will pay to clean up its mess and build resilience for the future.

This bill is timely

- We have a mess in the State of Oregon because of climate change: every year wildfires ravage forests and rangeland, destroy homes and businesses and, like the heat dome of 2021, steal the livelihood and cut short the lives of too many Oregonians.
- The costs are staggering. The [2021 heat dome took 116 lives](#). The [2020 Labor Day wildfires cost another 11 lives, destroyed nearly 5,000 homes and businesses, burned up 1.2 million acres of land, and cost taxpayers 355 million dollars in clean-up costs](#). The [2024 wildfire season scorched 1.9 million acres](#), much of it rangeland ranchers depend on. [And wildfire smoke does untold damage to the health of Oregonians](#) across the state.
- These costs are only going to go up. And the cost of doing nothing now to prepare for future climate damage is only going to grow.

This bill accomplishes important things for Oregonians

- It holds Fossil fuel corporations responsible by requiring them to use a portion of their profits to repair and prepare for the damages caused by the climate crisis—profits they earned even though they knew their product would pollute.
- The Climate Superfund Act makes polluters pay to:
 - **Help Oregon firefighters and communities** adapt to more frequent, intense wildfires.
 - **Redress the damages** Oregonians incurred from wildfires, heat domes, droughts and other climate enhanced weather events.
 - **Build resilience for the future** through wildfire prevention, emergency centers and infrastructure hardening against upcoming climate disasters.

It's time to hold Big Oil responsible through passage of the Climate Superfund Act.