

Submitter: Patricia Hine

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Energy and Environment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1187

Dear Chair Sollman, Vice Chair Smith, and Senators Golden, Pham & Robinson,

Thank you for taking my testimony on SB 1187. My name is Patricia Hine and I am a retired Navy Commander, college instructor and currently a community organizer. I am co-president of 350 Eugene, a grassroots climate justice organization since 2013 that works for a equitable transition off fossil fuels and a clean, renewable energy economy.

I am writing to express my strong support for SB 1187. Put simply, those creating the climate-destabilizing pollution from the extraction, distribution and burning of fossil fuels have NOT be paying the cost for that damage. Taxpayers have. (To say nothing of the unnecessary subsidies paid to these companies that impoverish our federal budget. The oil and gas industry are the richest companies on earth.)

Blasting their waste (polluting gases) into the atmosphere is classic "externalization of costs." Why pay to take out your garbage, if you can invisibly blow it into the sky? Taxpayers have been footing the bill for these externalized costs from the fossil fuel industry and it's harming our climate, our health, our air and our water.

They should pay their fair share of past damages from climate change during 1995-2024. This will SAVE Oregonians taxpayer dollars. This is not about the small polluters, this is about the big coal, oil & gas polluters in Oregon. They should not have a free ride to dump their waste at taxpayer expense. It's part of their "cost of doing business."

Please vote yes on SB 1187. It's the right thing to do. No more free-loading polluters. Time to pay up.

Thank you.