

Submitter: Andrew Simrin

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Energy and Environment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1187

Dear Chair Sollman, Vice Chair Brock Smith, and Members of the Committee,

I am writing to ask for your support on SB 1187: Make Polluters Pay. This bill has a public hearing in the Senate Energy and Environment Committee on Monday, April 7th with a possible work session scheduled for Wednesday, April 9.

This bill is important to me because large polluters are one of the major driving factors as to why our environment and climate is at such high risk of rapid anthropologically driven change due to rapidly rising GHG concentrations in the atmosphere.

Every year there is wildfire and wildfire smoke impacting the entire state, and severe ice and rain events are also becoming more common.

Oregon's Polluter Pays bill would require large fossil fuel firms to pay compensation for past climate change damages. It is based on the principle that those responsible for creating pollution have a moral obligation to make amends. The approach is analogous to other, well-established federal and state programs that impose strict liability for cleaning up past pollution. Comparable Climate Superfund bills have been enacted in Vermont and New York and are being considered in several other US states.

For these reasons, I urge your support for SB 1187. Thank you for your consideration.