



LISA FRAGALA
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
HOUSE DISTRICT 8
FROM THE WILLAMETTE RIVER TO SPENCER BUTTE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

April 6, 2025

RE: Support for Senate Bill 1187 in the Senate Committee on Energy and Environment

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

As someone who is concerned about the resiliency of Oregon's communities in the face of climate change impacts, I'm writing to express my strong support for Senate Bill 1187: Make Polluters Pay. This bill is important to me and important to the constituents in my district.

Oregon's communities are increasingly seeing the costly damage of record breaking heatwaves, increased incidents of extreme weather, and unprecedented wildfires. Our state's citizens feel the impact of these natural disasters on their lives often struggling to recover from significant incidents. **My community remembers all too well the 2020 Labor Day fires which devastated communities upriver on the McKenzie leaving thousands homeless and devastated.** Many of these families are still struggling to recover today.

These natural disasters strain our state's resources and create mounting costs for public health & safety, wildfire resiliency infrastructure, and protecting our natural resource economies. **The burden for footing the bill for responding to this crisis is currently the responsibility of taxpayers, even though fossil fuel companies have created the catastrophe.** Attribution science makes it possible to hold large polluters culpable and it is time that we hold them accountable to pay their fair share.

Under SB 1187, large fossil fuel firms will be required to pay compensation for past climate change damages. It is based on the principle that those responsible for creating pollution have a moral obligation for restitution. Under the bill, state agencies will have the responsibility for assessing damages and implementing a climate resiliency strategy plan addressing the impacts to Oregon's communities. **Funds collected from only the largest polluters will be used for programs to help mitigate the impacts of climate disasters on Oregonian communities and to build for a more climate resilient future.**

As an elementary educator of 25 years, we had a simple rule in my classroom: if you make a mess you clean it up. Even kindergarten students understand that when you impact others it is your responsibility to be part of the solution. SB 1187 is a pragmatic approach to solving one of our state's most challenging issues. **For these reasons, I urge your support for SB 1187.** Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Lisa M. Fragala

Representative Lisa Fragala
House District 8

