

Submitter: Kathryn Olney

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 helps with the mitigation that must occur for damage to our climate. Oregon has the smokiest cities in the nation; Bend is third worst. This affects health, quality of life, insurance premiums- all things which may drive my family to leave the state we have lived in for 58 years.

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.

Sincerely,
Kathryn Olney