

Submitter: Brett Baylor

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Energy and Environment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1187

Chair Sollman and Members of the Committee --

Oregon taxpayers such as myself at present are fully responsible for all costs incurred from wildfire damage and prevention, extreme heat dome damages and emergency cooling, sea level rise along our coast, and other extreme weather events. This bill represents a future tax offset for Oregonians by requiring those polluting entities responsible for creating these events to pay at least a share of the total costs. It does not require polluters to foot the bill alone -- just pay their fair share.

Reporting has shown that companies such as Exxon have known of the direct linkage between burning fossil fuels and climate change. They have known this for over forty years and yet made no efforts to counterbalance their emissions. Instead, they chose to fabricate denials and convince Americans climate change is a myth.

Our cities and counties are hugely burdened by these disasters. They need help, as does the State, to bear these costs -- especially given Federal funding cuts in process.

Please pass this bill.

Brett Baylor