

4/8/2025

Testimony in support of bill SB 1187

On behalf of APANO Communities United Fund

Chair Sollman, Vice-Chair Brock-Smith, and Members of the Committee:

APANO respectfully submits this testimony in strong support of Senate Bill 1187, the Climate Superfund Cost Recovery Program a.k.a Makes Polluters Pay. This legislation aims to address the escalating costs of climate change by holding major greenhouse gas emitters financially accountable for their contributions to environmental degradation.

The financial burden of climate change on Oregon is substantial and growing. SB 1187 seeks to recover costs from entities responsible for significant greenhouse gas emissions, thereby alleviating the economic strain on the state and its residents. By implementing this program, Oregon can redirect funds toward:

- **Public Health Initiatives:** Addressing climate-related health issues and improving healthcare infrastructure.
- **Natural Resource Preservation:** Protecting and restoring ecosystems vital to the state's economy and biodiversity.
- **Disaster Preparedness and Response:** Enhancing resilience against climate-induced natural disasters, reducing long-term recovery costs.

This proactive approach not only mitigates the financial impact of climate change but also promotes sustainable economic growth by investing in the state's environmental and infrastructural resilience. By investing in our future now, we can help mitigate future disasters.

SB 1187 represents a critical step toward environmental justice and economic responsibility. By ensuring that polluters contribute to the costs they impose on our state, Oregon can foster a healthier environment and a more equitable economy for all its residents. As our future generations already feel the disproportionate impacts of the failure of previous generations, we must ask our elected officials to take a stand and support a clean environment for all. Taxpayers should not be financially responsible for major industry polluters ruining our natural environment.

We urge the committee to support SB 1187 and advance it toward passage.



Thank you for your time and consideration.

Thank you,
Sam Guthman
Policy Manager
APANO