



April 8, 2025

Oregon State Legislature
Senate Committee On Energy and Environment
900 Court St. NE
Salem, OR 97301

RE: Support for Senate Bill 1187, Relating to greenhouse gas emissions.

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

On behalf of the more than 55,000 members and supporters of the Sierra Club Oregon Chapter, we write in support of Senate Bill 1187, which seeks to make climate polluters pay for their impacts in Oregon.

SB 1187 would create a climate superfund protecting Oregonians from the worst impacts of climate change. Oregon continually faces devastating costs from extreme weather events like heat waves, wildfires, and ice storms, and these impacts are only worsening. However, the financial burden has largely fallen to Oregon taxpayers and the time has come for the companies who profited from fossil fuels to help pay for the damage they have caused.

This bill requires large fossil fuel companies to compensate for the climate damages caused by their emissions from 1995 to 2024. More importantly, only the largest companies that sold oil, gas, and coal in Oregon will be liable—small businesses are excluded. Funds collected will be used for wildfire resilience and climate adaptation, including support for environmental justice communities. Strategies could include nature-based solutions, wildfire prevention, infrastructure adaptation, and disaster preparedness.

SB 1187 aligns with similar legislation passed in New York and Vermont¹, and is part of a growing movement in additional states to recover costs from the companies responsible for climate change. By holding these companies accountable, Oregon will not only help fund climate adaptation and wildfire prevention but also ensure a more resilient future for the state and its most impacted communities.

Please vote yes on SB 1187.

Respectfully submitted,

Emily Bowes, Policy Strategist

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Emily Bowes". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending from the end.

¹ ["Climate disasters are on the rise. These states want to make oil companies pay."](#) Oregon Capital Chronicle, 4/2/2025.