

Submitter: Ann Turner
On Behalf Of: Oregon Physicians for Social Responsibility
Committee: Senate Committee On Energy and Environment
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3681

Dear Chair Sollman and Members of the Senate Energy and Environment Committee,

As a retired physician, I volunteer with Oregon Physicians for Social Responsibility (OPSR) and am co-President of the Board. There is no single issue more important to health than climate change.

HB3681 addresses this issue in a way that is smart and effective. I strongly urge you to move this bill forward.

Electricity demand is projected to increase by 30% in Oregon over the next decade, but we are not building new grid infrastructure fast enough to keep pace. A major problem is that state requirements for permitting new power plants and transmission lines are often complex or duplicative, slowing efforts to expand. This bill makes changes to administrative regulations that will speed the permitting process.

HB 3681 changes the OPUC rule that presently requires developers to obtain all needed land use approvals before filing a petition for a CPCN. This sequencing requirement has been burdensome to the overall process of project development.

HB3681 is a TRUE CLIMATE BILL! It removes regulatory roadblocks and duplications to permitting clean electricity power plants and transmission lines. This is super important because climate change is accelerating and we have only limited time to build out the clean energy infrastructure.

On behalf of Oregon PSR, strongly urge you to pass this bill.

Thank you,

Ann Turner, MD

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