

Submitter: PATRICK GALASSO
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Judiciary
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB926
5/12/25
Esteemed Senators, Representatives

Thank you for your time listening to our collective stories of loss. I want to speak less of the loss I experienced and more to the pain of un-healing from lack of closure.

I returned to Oregon from Vermont to assist my sister and help my elderly mother who could no longer live alone because of declining health and worsening dementia. I had all my belongings at her house of 40 plus years in Otis. Things were difficult in the months leading up to September with COVID in full death-mode and her health issues and the dementia- but she was doing ok. She was safe. She was in a familiar place with her familiar life things with no debt. After September that world was incinerated.

Traumatic events exacerbate health issues and after the conflagration, her health and memory took a precipitous decline. She was lost, confused: confused doesn't describe the fog, and pacing and repetitive questions about where she was and what happened and where was her wedding band and favorite rosary.

So while the Company continues to deflect and delay- we deal with open wounds daily. There can be no healing without closure. Our hearts and spirits were/ are singed. And now, seeing the feel good advertising from the Company about preventing wild fires just puts vinegar in that seething place.

The actions over the last five years have been repetitive and cyclic: mediate, trial, guilty repeat- nothing changes, nothing changes unless acted upon by an outside push.

I support SB 926 because it's a push for positive change. Thank you to sponsors Senators Smith, Gorsek, and Representatives Cate and Gomberg and the regular sponsors: Senators Golden, Manning Jr, Meek, and Representatives Diehl, Javadi.

Making Oregonian rate/payers heft the harm caused by the company's negligence and delays is yet another egregious deflection of responsibility. And it's just gross- kinda reminds me of the corporate Piggy Bosses in Animal Farm.

Oregonians- our neighbors and people unscathed by the firestorms shouldn't have to pay for the company's accountability with rate increases.... (I'm just angry and tired

of the Company's games already)

It also means we, who have lost everything... now they want to make us pay a rate increase for their malfeasance? No.

We want to heal.

Your support of SB 926 will help break their Sisyphean cycle of delay and deflection and we can begin a path to resolution.

Thank you

patrick galasso