

Submitter: Ann Turner
On Behalf Of: Oregon Physicians for Social Responsibility
Committee: House Committee On Emergency Management and Veterans
Measure, Appointment or HB4032
Topic:

Chair Tran, Vice-Chairs Lewis and Watanabe, and members of the Committee, My name is Ann Turner. I am a retired physician, a volunteer with Oregon Physicians for Social Responsibility and a member of the Risk Bond Coalition.

I am writing in strong support of HB4032 that directs the State Department of Energy to evaluate and prioritize geographically dispersed emergency fuel storage sites. We must move fuels from 70–100-year-old tanks in the CEI Hub sitting on an earthquake liquefaction zone as quickly as possible. We know for certain that there will be a major earthquake, from the Cascadia Subduction Zone, in the next 40 years. We don't know when another natural disaster or accident may cause a fuel spill or release that could have similar consequences—explosions, toxic air pollution, pollution of the Willamette River, etc. The impact will be greatest on BIPOC and low-income communities and is an issue of environmental justice.

The ODOE needs a minimal increase in funding to begin the process of identifying appropriate areas to move some these fuels. This is not something that can wait. The benefits far outweigh the costs.

I strongly urge you to pass HB 4032 for the health, safety and economic wellbeing of all Oregonians.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Ann Turner, MD