

Dear Oregon Environmental Protection Agency,

We are Our Future Oregon, a youth leadership network that focuses on climate action and climate justice. As an organization, we represent 65 student leaders from 30 high schools across Oregon. We are writing to express our support for the Oregon Environmental Coalition bill, Make Polluters Pay.

The reasons behind our support include the need to cut pollution in our state and invest in the health of our communities. Transportation is Oregon's largest source of climate pollution, yet we do not consistently measure how transportation investments increase or reduce vehicle miles traveled. This bill addresses that gap by requiring the state to track driving levels and evaluate the climate impacts of major transportation projects.

As youth and participants in an environmental internship, we at Our Future care deeply about Oregon's future and the policies that will shape the world our generation inherits. We are already experiencing the impacts of climate change through worsening wildfires, extreme heat, and air quality concerns. Policies that help reduce transportation emissions are essential to protecting public health and ensuring a sustainable future for all Oregonians.

The Measure What We Drive Bill is the logical and responsible next step in improving transparency and accountability in how Oregon plans and invests in transportation infrastructure. When the state spends public funds on transportation, communities deserve to understand whether those investments contribute to pollution or help meet Oregon's climate goals. Better data leads to better decision-making and supports smarter investments in cleaner transportation options, safer infrastructure, and healthier communities. Informed, responsible planning is beyond important, and we urge you to support the Measure What We Drive bill so we can ensure Oregon communities are moving closer to a healthier, more productive future.

Sincerely,

The student leaders from Our Future Oregon