

Kate Lieber
State Senator
District 14



April 23, 2025

Obie Rutledge
Secretary of the Senate
State Capitol Building
Salem, OR 97301

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this letter as a vote explanation for Senate Bill 926.

This bill aims to solve the right problem. Costs for ratepayers are increasing year over year, and wildfires are devastating our communities at a rate higher than ever before.

With that being said, the intricacies of the bill would have benefitted from a longer and more involved public process. Given the opposition to this legislation from environmental groups, rate payer advocates and the business community, I believe that there were not enough voices brought to the table — particularly on the legal components — and once the bill was introduced there was little time for substantive feedback. In particular, I would have appreciated the opportunity for a second public hearing after the amendment was made public.

For these reasons, I could not vote for it on the Senate Floor.

I look forward to more conversations around lowering prices for ratepayers, and addressing the rising frequency and devastation of wildfires.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kate Lieber".

Senator Kate Lieber
Senate District 14