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Managing Monsanto Settlement to Protect Oregon's Environment

Senate Bill 1561 invests Monsanto Settlement Agreement money to mitigate the long-term, dangerous impact of PCBs

SALEM, Ore. — Today, [Senate Bill 1561](#) passed the Oregon Senate with strong bipartisan support. This legislation will ensure the \$580 million from the Monsanto Settlement Agreement will be managed and invested over the long-term and used to mitigate the effects of polychlorinated biphenyls, or PCBs.

In 2022, agricultural biotechnology company Monsanto was ordered to [pay a \\$700 million settlement](#) to the State of Oregon for its role in polluting the state with PCBs, which are toxic chemicals that can lead to cancer.

“We have an opportunity to be fiscally and environmentally responsible by harnessing this historic settlement to address the lasting devastating effects of toxic chemicals,” **said Sen. Elizabeth Steiner (D-NW Portland)**, chief sponsor of this legislation and Co-Chair of the Committee on Ways and Means. “This bill will ensure Oregon has the funds we need to clean up our waterways and land, without dedicating more of Oregonians’ hard-earned tax dollars to Monsanto’s mess.”

SB 1561 is a key pillar of Senate Democrats’ [Uniting Oregon Agenda](#), which aims to create a healthy and safe environment for all Oregonians. The bill now goes to the Oregon House of Representatives for consideration.

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