



## OREGON SENATE DEMOCRATS

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Oregon State Legislature

### PRESS RELEASE

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### **Senator Dembrow Leads Fuel Disaster Legislation to Senate Passage**

*Senate Bill 1567 will protect lives, environment during major seismic event*

SALEM – Today, the Senate approved Senate Bill 1567 on a vote of 23 to 2. This legislation will help prevent grave environmental and public safety hazards in the wake of a Cascadia Subduction Zone earthquake. Oregon’s aging fuel storage infrastructure is vulnerable to critical failure in a major seismic event. The Critical Energy Infrastructure (CEI) Hub is located on a six-mile stretch along the Willamette River in NW Portland. The Hub houses over 90% of Oregon’s liquid fuels and poses a significant threat to the region and state.

“We’re taking critical action to prepare for disaster. It’s only a matter of time,” said Senator Michael Dembrow, Chief Sponsor of Senate Bill 1567, who carried the bill on the Senate floor. “There are hundreds of millions of gallons of flammable materials at the CEI Hub. We’re 100 years overdue for a major Cascadia subduction zone earthquake. Any spill or explosion at the CEI Hub would be a serious threat to workers, firefighters and other first responders, frontline communities, fish, and other natural resources. It has been characterized as a disaster on the order of Fukushima and Deepwater Horizon combined. We cannot afford to ignore this problem any longer. Senate Bill 1567 will protect our Oregon for the challenges ahead.”

Senate Bill 1567 requires energy terminal owners to submit comprehensive seismic vulnerability assessments and risk mitigation plans to the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality no later than June 1, 2024. This legislation also requires the Oregon Department of Energy to develop a statewide Energy Security Plan to better prepare for a seismic event, protect local communities, and align with Oregon’s greenhouse gas reduction goals.

Senate Bill 1567 now goes to the House of Representatives for consideration.

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