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*** 2021 OREGON LEGISLATIVE ALERT ***

SB 360 - HB 2332 - HB 2692

Senate Bill 360 is sponsored by State Senator Brian Boquist. It would exempt Small Modular Nuclear Reactors (SMNR) from the ballot measure law passed by Oregon voters in 1980: prohibiting the licensing and construction of nuclear power plants in Oregon until there is a federally licensed repository for its high-level radioactive waste (ORS 469.595); and statewide voter approval. (ORS 469.597) SB 360 would allow SMNRs to be sited in an Oregon city or county with just the voters of that city or county approving them and it does not require that there first be a federally licensed high level radioactive waste repository for its high level radioactive waste.

House Bill 2332 is sponsored by State Representative Daniel Bonham. It would “REPEAL” ORS 469.590, 469.593, 469.595, 469.597, 469.599 and 469.601” — the 1980 ballot measure law prohibiting the licensing and construction of nuclear power plants in Oregon until there is a federally licensed repository for its high-level radioactive waste and statewide voter approval. This bill opens the door to siting ANY KIND OF NUCLEAR POWER PLANT in Oregon, without first requiring a federally licensed repository for its high level nuclear waste and statewide voter approval.

House Bill 2692 is sponsored by State Representative Brad Witt. It proposes to exempt SMNRs from the requirements of the 1980 ballot measure law passed by Oregon voters and it requires the Oregon Department Energy to use taxpayer dollars to develop and administer a program for "educating the public" about small modular nuclear reactors. This puts Oregon in the business of becoming a public relations arm of the nuclear industry, promoting NuScale and other small modular nuclear reactors as a so called solution to furthering Oregon’s greenhouse gas emissions reduction goals.

THESE BILLS NEED TO BE STOPPED

There is no final repository for high level nuclear waste, including that produced by small modular nuclear reactors! We need to enforce the law that was passed by Oregon voters in 1980, not provide loopholes, or repeal the hard fought efforts by Oregonians to make the nuclear power industry responsible for its high level nuclear waste, and most importantly give all Oregon voters the final say on whether nuclear plants can be built and operated in our state!

Spread the word. Contact your State Senator, State Representative and the Governor. Let them know you are opposed to all three of these bills

For More Information

Go to the Oregon Legislature website: (www.oregonlegislature.gov). Under “2021 LEGISLATIVE SESSION INFORMATION” go to the link 2021 Senate / House Bills. Once there scroll down to each of the bill numbers. Clicking on each bill link takes you to information about each bill, including when and where hearings are scheduled. If you don’t have internet access, contact OCF and we will provide you information on these bills and alert you to upcoming hearings.