

Dear Senator Eklund and members of the Senate Judiciary Committee,

I write as a citizen to oppose SB 33. I join with opponents in noting that:

1. The bill is not needed. There are already laws regarding trespass and property rights.
2. What SB33 adds is threat. It enables law enforcement to silence legitimate forms of political expression and selectively apply coercion against political opponents.

Let me add as well:

3. SB 33 purports to address the possibility of “critical infrastructure damage.” However, what this actually seems to mean is “damage to the economic interests of infrastructure companies,” in particular firms in the fossil fuel industry. There is, of course, a real ongoing assault on critical infrastructure, but it is not the work of environmental protestors: it is the attack on *public* infrastructure in the form of the ‘austerity’ measures, tax cuts, and privatization and disinvestment initiatives pushed through state legislatures over the past 30 years. The cascading results of these policies now range from deteriorating school facilities to breakdowns of public water systems and collapsing bridges. It may well be that harsh civil and criminal penalties are needed to intimidate and punish those responsible for these conditions. They are not appropriate for people exercising their civil rights and political voice.

Sincerely,

Jan Nespor