

**IMPACT STATEMENT**

**Legislation title:** Authorize the City Attorney to take legal action against Monsanto Company and its successor entities for past and future remedial action costs incurred by the City as a result of Monsanto’s manufacture and distribution of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) that have been released into the environment. (Resolution)

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**Presenter name:** Tracy Reeve

**Purpose of proposed legislation and background information:**

The City of Portland will join six other West Coast cities in suing Monsanto and its successors for manufacturing and distributing PCBs for use in many products with the knowledge that PCBs were harmful to human health and the environment and that they accumulate and persist in the environment for decades. Monsanto and its successors profited from the sale of PCBs, which have contaminated the waterways, sediments, land and air of cities across the country.

Holding Monsanto responsible for the cleanup of PCB contamination is consistent with City policies and the liability provisions of the Clean Water Act and the Superfund law.

**Financial and budgetary impacts:**

There will be minor out-of-pocket expenses; the City will be represented by outside counsel on a contingency basis and in-house lawyers in the City Attorney’s Office will provide additional services.

**Community impacts and community involvement:**

This Resolution involves direction from the Council to its lawyers in the City Attorney’s Office, based on privileged attorney-client communications, so there was no public outreach or input.

**Budgetary Impact Worksheet**

**Does this action change appropriations?**

- YES: Please complete the information below.
- NO: Skip this section

Fund	Fund Center	Commitment Item	Functional Area	Funded Program	Grant	Sponsored Program	Amount