

BUSINESS for **INNOVATIVE** a project of **Ceres**

March 13, 2013

Senator Alan Bates 900 Court St. NE S-205 Salem, Oregon 97301

Senator Jackie Dingfelder 900 Court St. NE S-407 Salem, Oregon 97301

Senator Mark Hass 900 Court St. NE S-207 Salem, Oregon 97301

Senator Alan Olson 900 Court St. NE S-425 Salem, Oregon 97301

Senator Bill Hansell 900 Court St. NE S-423 Salem, Oregon 97301

Re: Oregon Clean Fuels Program

Dear Senators Bates, Dingfelder, Hansell, Hass, and Olson,

On behalf of Business for Innovative Climate and Energy Policy (BICEP), I am writing to express strong support for the Oregon Clean Fuels Program (CFP), and to advocate lifting the existing 2015 sunset provision so that Oregon will be able to realize the full benefits of the program. Independent economic analysis¹ has shown that the CFP would benefit Oregon's economy; Oregon's fuel cost savings, employment rate, personal income and gross state product would all grow under the program, especially when Oregon produced fuels replace petroleum based products.

The CFP would provide substantive economic benefits. It would serve to reduce Oregon's dependence on oil, thereby protecting consumers and businesses from volatile price spikes. Further, Oregonians spend over five billion dollars a year to import gas and oil, and diverting some of those funds to developing clean fuels and associated infrastructure in Oregon would bring appreciable benefits to the economy. Jack Faucett Associates' analysis² found no significant negative economic impacts in any of the 70 economic sectors it examined, and found significant benefits for clean fuel producers (such as biofuels, electricity, natural gas and propane), their supply chains, the construction sector and retail.

¹ "Economic Impact Analysis of the Low-Carbon Fuel Standard Rule for the State of Oregon," Jack Faucett Associates, January 2011 <u>LCFS Economic Analysis</u> ² Id.

As a market based solution that does not mandate a specific technology or fuel but instead provides flexibility for fuel providers, the CFP will drive innovation and investment in a broad based clean fuels industry in Oregon. Of course, the increase in alternative fuels produced in Oregon will correspond to increased economic benefits to the state.

Promoting clean fuels will benefit our economy while helping prevent runaway climate change. In order to realize those benefits, it is critical to lift the 2015 sunset provision of the program. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

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Anne L. Kelly Director, BICEP*

cc: Governor John Kitzhaber

* BICEP members include Annie's Inc, Aspen Skiing Company, Avon Products, Ben & Jerry's, CA Technologies, Clif Bar, eBay, Eileen Fisher, Gap Inc, Jones Lang LaSalle, KB Home, Levi Strauss & Co., Limited Brands, New Belgium Brewing, Nike, The North Face, Outdoor Industry Association, Portland Trail Blazers, Seventh Generation, Starbucks, Stonyfield Farm, Symantec, and Timberland.