

February 2, 2015 Senate Environment & Natural Resources Committee

Re: Low Carbon Fuel Standard (SB 324)

Dear Chair Edwards & Members of the Committee,

The Wilsonville Area Chamber of Commerce has taken a strong position of opposing the Low Carbon Fuel Standard consistent with the position of the Oregon State Chamber of Commerce.

The problems we see with the legislation are numerous:

- 1. SB 324 will increase gas prices significantly. It is, in effect, a very significant and hidden gas tax that will reduce disposable income and negatively affect our local economy.
- 2. SB 324 is regressive and will effectively make our low income citizens shoulder a disproportionate share of the cost.
- 3. SB 324 will have a negative effect on tourism-dependent communities as Oregonians spend less on travel.
- 4. SB 324 will cost far more jobs than it creates, and whatever job gains SB 324 promises to produce will not materialize in our community.
- 5. Our community's economic recovery is fragile. Imposing new costs on our citizens and businesses when we are just now seeing the benefits of reduced fuel prices is a blow to our local economy.
- 6. The increased costs of the LCFS will not put a single dollar into what our community needs most safer and better roads.
- 7. Oregon's carbon footprint is one of the lowest in the nation. Imposing the LCFS costs and regulations on our economy makes no sense when other states with larger carbon emissions are not doing the same. It is yet another competitive disadvantage we will all pay for with fewer jobs and diminished tax revenue.

The Wilsonville Area Chamber of Commerce strongly urges you to vote 'no' on SB 324. The costs of the legislation far outweigh any benefits to our community.

Sincerely,

Steve Gilmore, IOM Chief Executive Officer



# POSITION ON PROPOSED LEGISLATION REGARDING SENATE BILL 324

Dear Senator Kruse Senator Roblan Representative Krieger Representative McKeown

This letter is in reference to Senate Bill 324. The Bay Area Chamber of Commerce, which represents over 600 businesses in Southwest Oregon, strongly <u>OPPOSES SB 324</u>. This bill is important to our membership for the following reasons:

- Our community's economic recovery is fragile. Imposing new costs on our citizens and businesses when we are just now seeing the benefits of reduced fuel prices is a blow to our local economy.
- Oregon's carbon footprint is one of the lowest in the nation. Imposing the LCFS costs and regulations on our economy makes no sense when other states with larger carbon emissions are not doing the same.
- The increased costs of SB324 will not put a single dollar into what our community needs most safer and better roads.

Thank you for your consideration of our position. If you have any questions about the Bay Area Chamber's position on this or any other bills, please feel free to contact me at the number below.

Sincerely

Rick Skinner
President

145 Central Avenue Coos Bay, Oregon 97420 541-266-0868

Senate Environment & Natural Resources Committee



**BEAVERTON AREA**Chamber of Commerce

12655 SW Center St, Suite 140 Beaverton, Oregon 97005 503.644.0123 MAIN 503.526.0349 FAX www.beaverton.org Re: Low Carbon Fuel Standard (SB 324)

Dear Chair Edwards and Members of the Committee,

The Beaverton Area Chamber of Commerce has taken a position in opposition to renewing the Clean Fuels Program. We oppose Senate Bill 324. We remain strong in our position that a National posture on carbon limits will ensure competitive fairness for our businesses and citizens of Oregon. Placing Oregon businesses at a disadvantage to other states by imposing burdensome regulations and higher costs of doing business on them will not encourage retention, growth or attraction of jobs in Oregon to generate income taxes.

Oregon and Oregonians have just recently enjoyed seeing our economy rebound and significant jobs growth. Increasing the costs of doing business will only stunt that growth and significantly harm it especially in rural areas of Oregon.

We are a strong proponent of investing in better roads and transportation infrastructure. Increases in the gas taxes should be dedicated to such. Under SB 324, none of the money from the increased fuel costs will go towards fixing and improving our roads. Furthermore, if SB 324 is successful, it will compromise the appetite for Oregonians to support taxes for transportation infrastructure well into the future.

The Beaverton Area Chamber of Commerce respectfully asks for your consideration and NO vote on SB 324.

Sincerely,

Jerry Jones Jr.

Lanphere Development & Construction

Chair of the Board

Denn Dennith Snik

Dianne Danowski Smith Publix NW

Chair of Business Advocacy

Spream Clare

Lorraine Clarno
Beaverton Area Chamber
President/CEO



Senate Environment & Natural Resources Committee

Re: Low Carbon Fuel Standard (SB 324)

Dear Chair Edwards & Members of the Committee,

I represent the Bend Chamber of Commerce, and we join the Oregon State Chamber of Commerce in opposing the Low Carbon Fuel Standard (LCFS). Under Senate Bill 324, which recent polls show Oregonians oppose, our local small businesses and working families would be disproportionately affected by the likely rise in gas prices as a result of the regulations.

The LCFS would be especially harmful for our rural community and those who have to drive long distances. Our local citizens and businesses will suffer the most. Senate Bill 324 will reduce the disposable income of the citizens who purchase the products and services that are the lifeblood of the local businesses we represent. The supposed job creation that the LCFS would create is not a real prospect for our community.

The Oregon DEQ assumes that gasoline prices will increase between 6 and 19 cents per gallon under the LCFS. Other studies show that the price will increase between 33 cents and \$1.06 per gallon. Our citizens and our businesses can't afford this.

Our local economy in large part depends on tourism. Higher gas prices mean Oregonians will be less likely to recreate and travel to communities such as ours that rely on tourism, a \$9.6 billion industry and provider of thousands of jobs statewide and many in our community.

We are also opposed to this legislation because it will so dramatically raise our gas prices with no prospect of any of this money going to fix and upgrade our roads and bridges.

We are respectfully requesting that you let the LCFS program expire. There are no benefits to our business community and our community at large, but the risks are significant.

Sincerely,

Tim Casey

President & CEO

Bcc: Senator Tim Knopp - District 27; Senator Ted Ferrioli - District 30

Bcc: Rep. Whisnant - District 53; Rep. McLane - District 55; Rep. Buehler - District 54; Rep. Huffman - District 59



Senate Environment & Natural Resources Committee

Re: Low Carbon Fuel Standard (SB 324)

Dear Chair Edwards & Members of the Committee,

The <u>Gresham Chamber of Commerce</u> has taken a strong position of opposing the Low Carbon Fuel Standard consistent with the position of the Oregon State Chamber of Commerce.

SB 324 will increase gas prices significantly. It is, in effect, a hidden gas tax that will reduce disposable income and negatively affect our local economy. It's regressive and will effectively make our low income citizens shoulder a disproportionate share of the cost.

SB 324 will cost far more jobs than it creates, with studies indicating net job losses between 9,000 and 29,000. Whatever job gains SB 324 promises will be overwhelmed by job losses resulting from the increased fuel costs.

Our community's economic recovery is still relatively fragile. Imposing new costs on our citizens and small businesses when we are now seeing the benefits of increased disposable income due to reduced fuel prices is a self-inflicted and needless blow to our local economy.

The Gresham and East County area needs transportation funding and infrastructure as much or more than any community in Oregon. The increased costs of the LCFS will not put any resources at all into transportation projects. Furthermore, it compromises funding for road projects not only in this biennium, but in future years as well as Oregonians bristle at the increased costs of fuel brought on by the LCFS.

The <u>Gresham Chamber of Commerce</u> strongly urges you to vote 'no' on SB 324. The costs of the legislation far outweigh any benefits to our community.

Sincerely,

**Bob McDonald** 

CEO Gresham Area Chamber of Commerce

Bob Midwald



Chamber President/CEO

Debbie Pedro

Chairman of the Board

Joseph Franell

Eastern Oregon Telecom

**Executive Board** 

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Paul Keeler

Eastern Oregon Telecom

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American West Properties

Joseph Basile

Calpine, Inc.

Jesse Torres

Country Financial

Governmental Affairs Team Chairman Art Kegler

Senate Environment & Natural Resources Committee

Re: Low Carbon Fuel Standard (SB 324)

Dear Chair Edwards & Members of the Committee,

The Hermiston Chamber of Commerce opposes SB 324 because it will negatively impact our region, industry, businesses and our community.

SB 324 represents a gas tax. It will increase the cost of fuel significantly. This means less disposable income for our residents to spend at our local businesses. It also means fewer people in our hotels, restaurants, and shops as travel costs increase.

Our ability to attract tourists also depends on good and safe highways and roads. We are also very concerned that it will compromise road funding not only now, but well into the future as Oregonians become increasingly price sensitive and reject gas taxes. SB 324 will increase fuel costs with no money going to roads and highways.

We don't see any economic benefits to our businesses and community as a result of SB 324. The only possibility we see is that it will be yet another blow to our local economy.

Please let the Oregon Clean Fuels Program expire.

Please VOTE no on SB 324.

Sincerely,

Joe Franell Chairman

Art Kegler

Debbie Pedro

Hermiston Government Affairs Team President/CEO

Hermiston Chamber of Commerce 415 S. Hwy 395 PO Box 185 Hermiston, OR 97838 541-567-6151 Fax:541-564-9109 hermistonchamber.com



Chamber of Commerce P.O. Box 1232 Heppner, OR 97836 541-676-5536

E-mail: <u>heppnerchamber@centurytel.net</u> Website: <u>www.heppnerchamber.com</u>

Facebook: http://www.facebook.com/Heppnerchamberofcommerce

February 2, 2015

Senate Environment & Natural Resources Committee

Re: Low Carbon Fuel Standard (SB 324)

Dear Chair Edwards & Members of the Committee,

The Heppner Chamber of Commerce opposes SB 324 because it will negatively impact our businesses and our community.

SB 324 represents a gas tax. It will increase the cost of fuel significantly. This means less disposable income for our residents to spend at our local businesses. It also means fewer people in our hotels, restaurants, and shops as travel costs increase.

Our ability to attract tourists also depends on good and safe highways and roads. Usually, gas tax money is dedicated to highway and road construction and maintenance. SB 324 will increase fuel costs with no money going to roads and highways. We are also very concerned that it will compromise road funding not only now, but well into the future as Oregonians become increasingly price sensitive and reject gas taxes.

Please remember that the economic growth that many are celebrating in Oregon has not reached all corners of the state. Our rural economies are fragile and can't afford new cost burdens while we are still trying to recover. SB 324 in no way helps our local economy. The only possibility we see is that SB 324 will be another obstacle for a local economic recovery. Please let the Oregon Clean Fuels Program expire.

Sincerely,

Sheryll Bates Executive Director



January 28, 2015

Re: Low Carbon Fuel Standard - Senate Bill 324

Dear Senator Chris Edwards and Members of the Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources;

I represent the Keizer Chamber of Commerce, and we join the Oregon State Chamber of Commerce in opposing the Low Carbon Fuel Standard (LCFS). Under Senate Bill 324, which recent polls show Oregonians oppose, our local small businesses and working families would be disproportionately affected by the likely rise in gas prices as a result of the regulations.

The LCFS would be especially harmful for our rural community and those who have to drive long distances. Our local citizens and businesses will suffer the most. Senate Bill 324 will reduce the disposable income of the citizens who purchase the products and services that are the lifeblood of the local businesses we represent. The supposed job creation that the LCFS would create is not a real prospect for our community.

The Oregon DEQ assumes that gasoline prices will increase between 6 and 19 cents per gallon under the LCFS. Other studies show that the price will increase between 33 cents and \$1.06 per gallon. Our citizens and our businesses can't afford this.

Our local economy in large part depends on tourism. Higher gas prices mean Oregonians will be less likely to recreate and travel to communities such as ours that rely on tourism, a \$9.6 billion industry and provider of thousands of jobs statewide and many in our community.

We are also opposed to this legislation because it will so dramatically raise our gas prices with no prospect of any of this money going to fix and upgrade our roads and bridges.

We are respectfully requesting that you let the LCFS program expire. There are no benefits to our business community and our community at large, but the risks are significant.

Sincerely,

Dan Clem

Government Affairs Committee Keizer Chamber of Commerce



### Serving the North Clackamas Region Since 1955

A Member-Driven Organization Committed to a Vibrant Business Environment

February 2, 2015
Senate Environment & Natural Resources Committee

Re: Low Carbon Fuel Standard (SB 324)

Dear Chair Edwards & Members of the Committee,

The North Clackamas County Chamber of Commerce has taken a strong position of opposing the Low Carbon Fuel Standard consistent with the position of the Oregon State Chamber of Commerce.

The problems we see with the legislation are numerous:

- SB 324 will increase gas prices significantly. It is, in effect, a very significant and hidden gas tax that will reduce disposable income and negatively affect our local economy.
- 2. SB 324 is regressive and will effectively make our low income citizens shoulder a disproportionate share of the cost.
- 3. SB 324 will have a negative effect on tourism-dependent communities as Oregonians spend less on travel.
- 4. SB 324 will cost far more jobs than it creates, and whatever job gains SB 324 promises to produce will not materialize in our community.
- 5. Our community's economic recovery is fragile. Imposing new costs on our citizens and businesses when we are just now seeing the benefits of reduced fuel prices is a blow to our local economy.
- 6. The increased costs of the LCFS will not put a single dollar into what our community needs most safer and better roads.
- 7. Oregon's carbon footprint is one of the lowest in the nation. Imposing the LCFS costs and regulations on our economy makes no sense when other states with larger carbon emissions are not doing the same. It is yet another competitive disadvantage we will all pay for with fewer jobs and diminished tax revenue.

The North Clackamas County Chamber of Commerce strongly urges you to vote 'no' on SB 324. The costs of the legislation far outweigh any benefits to our community.

Sincerely,

Laura Edmonds
President & CEO



#### President

Barbara Hacke Resch
Summit Wealth Management

Chief Executive Officer Jason Brandt

#### **Executive Committee**

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Salem Area Chamber of Commerce 1110 Commercial Street NE Salem, Oregon 97301 503-581-1466; Fax 503-581-0972 salemchamber.org January 29, 2015

Re: Low Carbon Fuel Standard (SB 324)

Esteemed Senate Committee On Environment and Natural Resources:

The Salem Area Chamber of Commerce opposes SB 324 because it will negatively impact our businesses and our community.

SB 324 represents a gas tax. It will increase the cost of fuel significantly. This means less disposable income for our residents to spend at our local businesses. It also means fewer people in our hotels, restaurants, and shops as travel costs increase.

Our ability to attract tourists also depends on good and safe highways and roads. Usually, gas tax money is dedicated to highway and road construction and maintenance. SB 324 will increase fuel costs with no money going to roads and highways. We are also very concerned that it will compromise road funding not only now, but well into the future as Oregonians become increasingly price sensitive and reject gas taxes.

We don't see any economic benefits to our businesses and community as a result of SB 324. The only possibility we see is that it will be yet another blow to our local economy.

Please let the Oregon Clean Fuels Program expire. Please oppose SB 324.

Sincerely,

Jason Brandt, Chief Executive Officer Salem Area Chamber of Commerce



410 S.F. Spruce Street P.O.Box 1026 Roseburg, OR 97470 Phone 541.672.2648 Fax 541.673.7868

www.RoseburgAreaChamber.org

February 2, 2015

The Honorable Chris Edwards, Chair Senate Committee on Environment & Natural Resources 900 Court Street, NE, S-411 Salem, OR 97301

Re:

SB 324 / Low Carbon Fuel Standard

Dear Chair Edwards and Members of the Committee,

The Roseburg Area Chamber of Commerce represents more than 500 businesses and organizations employing 17,000 Douglas County residents. The Roseburg Area Chamber strongly opposes the low carbon fuel standard (LCFS). The chamber, specifically, opposes SB 324 that would repeal sunset provisions on LCFS, which your committee plans to hold public hearing on Monday, February 2. On behalf of citizens and businesses in our rural community, we respectfully request this bill **not** be passed out of committee.

The Roseburg Area Chamber of Commerce recognizes a number of problems with SB 324:

- 1. Significant increase in gas prices, reducing our citizens' incomes and adversely impacting our local economy.
- 2. Burdening our low income citizens who will shoulder a disproportionate share of the cost.
- 3. Negative impact on hospitality industry—businesses and employees—in visitor-destination communities such as Douglas County.
- 4. Considerably more jobs will be sacrificed than created, and whatever job gains SB 324 purports to produce will not materialize in our rural community.
- As a timber-based community, Douglas County's economic recovery is fragile. Imposing these costs on our citizens and businesses when the benefit of reduced fuel prices is just now being realized, would be a blow to our local economy.
- 6. The increased costs of the LCFS will not fund safer and better roads, a significant priority in our community.
- 7. Oregon's carbon footprint is one of the lowest in the nation. Imposing the LCFS costs and regulations makes no sense when other states with larger carbon emissions—that Oregon is competing with to attract companies and jobs—are not doing the same. The result would be yet another competitive disadvantage, costing Oregon employers, jobs and tax revenue.

The Roseburg Area Chamber of Commerce strongly urges a "no" vote on SB 324. The costs of the legislation far outweigh any benefits to our community. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Best regards,

ROSEBURG AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Debra L. Fromdahl

President & CEO

To advocate for and be the voice of the business community in the greater Roseburg area.

VISION MISSION

To strengthen, enhance and protect our members through political advocacy, economic development, community promotion and member programs and services.



Tigard Area Chamber of Commerce 12345 SW Main Street Tigard, OR 97223 503-639-1656

February 2, 2015
Senate Environment & Natural Resources Committee

Re: Low Carbon Fuel Standard (SB 324)

Dear Chair Edwards & Members of the Committee,

The Tigard Chamber of Commerce has taken a position in opposition to renewing the Clean Fuels Program. We oppose Senate Bill 324. Our local community and businesses are only now starting to enjoy the benefits of lower fuel prices. More disposable income is a very good thing for our businesses and our community.

We are opposed to SB 324 because it will result in fuel prices going back up as a result of the regulations. Our Chamber understands that the "success" of the Clean Fuels program requires that gas prices go up significantly. This is not good for our community. It means less disposable income, especially for low income residents. It means less spending in our local businesses. All of this will have a negative impact on jobs in our community.

The Oregon DEQ projects that gasoline prices will increase between 6 and 19 cents per gallon under the LCFS. Other studies show that the price will be much greater, and that job losses will be significant. This will undermine any potential for economic recovery in our community.

Finally, our chamber is a strong proponent of investing in better roads and transportation infrastructure.

Traditionally, an increase in fuel taxes translates into more needed road and transportation projects. But under SB 324, none of the money from the increased fuel costs will go toward fixing and improving our roads. Furthermore, if SB 324 is successful, it will compromise the appetite for Oregonians to support taxes for transportation infrastructure well into the future.

The Tigard Chamber of Commerce strongly urges you to vote 'no' on SB 324. We see no positive outcomes to our community as a result of this legislation.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely

Debi Mollahan

CEO, Tigard Area Chamber of Commerce



January 30, 2015

Re: Low Carbon Fuel Standard (SB 324)

Dear Chair Edwards & Members of the Senate Environment Committee,

Thank you for representing the citizens and businesses of Tillamook County. For your consideration, the Tillamook Area Chamber of Commerce has taken a position of opposing the Low Carbon Fuel Standard.

SB 324 will increase gas prices significantly. It is, in reality, a very significant and hidden gas tax and local private industry sees that clearly. As you are aware Tillamook County has made a significant effort to boost tourism this past year, low gas prices have made a significant positive impact on that according to word from our local industry. I urge you to <u>not</u> take part in setting back our efforts literally overnight with the passage of SB 324.

We encourage you to stand strong with your constituents here on the coast, with the understanding that Tillamook County will see no positive impact from SB 324. Manufacturing industry exporting is already at a significant disadvantage being on the Oregon coast, detached from rail and interstate and significant fuel regulations will have a negative impact on our local business community.

Although the Chambers focus is primarily business we are concerned of the social aspects that surround this bill also. Tillamook County continues to have a high low income population and this bill effectively causes them to shoulder a cost disproportionate to their benefit.

The Tillamook Area Chamber of Commerce strongly urges you remain supportive of your constituents, both citizens and businesses, and vote 'no' on SB 324. The costs of the legislation far outweigh any benefits to Tillamook County.

Sincerely,

Justin Aufdermauer

Executive Director
Tillamook Area Chamber of Commerce

## Stayton/Sublimity Chamber of Commerce

175 E. High St Stayton Oregon 97383 (503) 769-3464 FAX (503) 769-3463

e-mail: sscoc@wvi.com website: staytonsublimitychamber.org

February 2, 2015 Senate Environment & Natural Resources Committee

Re: Low Carbon Fuel Standard (SB 324)

Dear Chair Edwards & Members of the Committee,

The Stayton/Sublimity Chamber of Commerce opposes SB 324 because it will negatively impact our businesses and our community.

Our local community and businesses are only now starting to enjoy the benefits of lower fuel prices. More disposable income is a very good thing for our businesses and our community.

We are opposed to SB 324 because it will result in fuel prices going back up as a result of the regulations. Our Chamber understands that the "success" of the Clean Fuels program requires that gas prices go up significantly. This is not good for a small community such as ours. It means less disposable income, especially for low income residents. It means less spending in our local businesses. All of this will have a negative impact on jobs in our community.

The Oregon DEQ projects that gasoline prices will increase between 6 and 19 cents per gallon under the LCFS. Other studies show that the price will be much greater, and that job losses will be significant. One economic study projects job losses will range from 9,000 to 29,000. Regardless of the number, we believe that whatever job gains may result from SB 324 will not be in our community. We are quite sure, however, that implementation of the LCFS will be yet another obstacle for potential economic recovery in our community.

Finally, our chamber is a proponent of investing in better roads and transportation infrastructure. Under SB 324, none of the money from the increased fuel costs will go toward fixing and improving our roads.

The Stayton/Sublimity Chamber of Commerce strongly urges you to vote 'no' on SB 324. We see no positive outcomes to our community as a result of this legislation.

Sincerely,

Kelly Schreiber

**Executive Director** 



Senate Environment & Natural Resources Committee

Re: Low Carbon Fuel Standard (SB 324)

Dear Chair Edwards & Members of the Committee.

The Tualatin Chamber of Commerce opposes the unconditional implementation of the Low Carbon Fuel Standard because it will negatively impact our members and our community. An unconditional implementation of the Standard will increase the cost of fuel, perhaps significantly. An increase in the cost of fuel raises the cost of doing business for everyone, depletes the disposable income of residents who shop at our local businesses, and means fewer travelers and other tourists in our hotels, restaurants, and shops. Moreover, the timing of this cost increase will rattle the still-fragile foundation of our local economic recovery, which has largely been built on the recent, significant decrease in the cost of non-LC fuel.

In addition to the concerns about the costs of the unconditional implementation of the Standard, the Tualatin Chamber of Commerce is also concerned about the quality of highways and roads in our community and region. Usually, gas tax money is dedicated to highway and road construction and maintenance. SB 324 will increase fuel costs with no money going to roads and highways. We are also very concerned that it will compromise road funding not only now, but well into the future as Oregonians become increasingly price sensitive and reject efforts for additional gas taxes.

The Tualatin Chamber of Commerce strongly urges you to oppose the unconditional implementation of the Low Carbon Fuel Standard while continuing to support funding of our critical transportation infrastructure.

Sincerely,

Linda Moholt, CEO, IOM linda@tualatinchamber.com

PO Box 701 18791 SW Martinazzi Ave. Tualatin, OR. 97062 Phone: 503-692-0780 Chamber@tualatinchamber.com www.TualatinChamber.com



January 26, 2015

**Environment and Natural Resources Committee** 

Re: Low Carbon Fuel Standard (SB 324)

Dear Chair Edwards and Members of the Committee:

The Chehalem Valley Chamber of Commerce opposes SB 324.

SB 324 represents a gas tax. It will increase the cost of fuel significantly. This means less disposable income for our residents to spend at our local businesses. It also means fewer people in our hotels, restaurants, and shops as travel costs increase.

Our ability to attract tourists also depends on good and safe highways and roads. Usually, gas tax money is dedicated to highway and road construction and maintenance. SB 324 will increase fuel costs with no money going to roads and highways. We are also very concerned that it will compromise road funding not only now, but well into the future as Oregonians become increasingly price sensitive and reject gas taxes.

The Chehalem Valley Chamber of Commerce represents more than 400 businesses in Newberg, Dundee and St. Paul. We are Yamhill County's largest business organization.

We don't see any economic benefits to our businesses and community as a result of SB 324. The only possibility we see is that it will be yet another blow to our local economy.

Please let the Oregon Clean Fuels Program expire. Please oppose SB 324.

Sincerely,

Sheryl Kelsh President/CEO

5hyl Keldy

Chehalem Valley Chamber of Commerce

115 NORTH COLLEGE STREET, NEWBERG, OREGON 97132 P 503-538-2014 F 503-538-2463 WWW.CHEHALEMVALLEY.ORG



February 2, 2015 Senate Environment & Natural Resources Committee

Re: Low Carbon Fuel Standard (SB 324)

Dear Chair Edwards & Members of the Committee,

I represent the Baker County Chamber of Commerce, and we join the Oregon State Chamber of Commerce in opposing the Low Carbon Fuel Standard (LCFS). Under Senate Bill 324, which recent polls show Oregonians oppose, our local small businesses and working families would be disproportionately affected by the likely rise in gas prices as a result of the regulations.

The LCFS would be especially harmful for our rural community and those who have to drive long distances. Our local citizens and businesses will suffer the most. Senate Bill 324 will reduce the disposable income of the citizens who purchase the products and services that are the lifeblood of the local businesses we represent. The supposed job creation that the LCFS would create is not a real prospect for our community.

The Oregon DEQ assumes that gasoline prices will increase between 6 and 19 cents per gallon under the LCFS. Other studies show that the price will increase between 33 cents and \$1.06 per gallon. Our citizens and our businesses can't afford this.

Our local economy in large part depends on tourism. Higher gas prices mean Oregonians will be less likely to recreate and travel to communities such as ours that rely on tourism, a \$9.6 billion industry and provider of thousands of jobs statewide and many in our community.

We are also opposed to this legislation because it will so dramatically raise our gas prices with no prospect of any of this money going to fix and upgrade our roads and bridges.

We are respectfully requesting that you let the LCFS program expire. There are no benefits to our business community and our community at large, but the risks are significant.

Sincerely,

Debra Bainter

Executive Director

Sent: Sunday, February 01, 2015 11:12 AM

To: Rep Post

Subject: Low Carbon Fuel Standard (SB 324)

Dear Mr Post

The Keizer Chamber of Commerce and I opposes SB 324 because it will negatively impact our businesses and our community.

residents to spend at our local businesses. It also means fewer people in our hotels, restaurants, and shops as travel SB 324 represents a gas tax. It will increase the cost of fuel significantly. This means less disposable income for our costs increase. Our ability to attract tourists also depends on good and safe highways and roads. Usually, gas tax money is dedicated to highways. We are also very concerned that it will compromise road funding not only now, but well into the future as highway and road construction and maintenance. SB 324 will increase fuel costs with no money going to roads and Oregonians become increasingly price sensitive and reject gas taxes.

We don't see any economic benefits to our businesses and community as a result of SB 324. The only possibility we see is that it will be yet another blow to our local economy.

Please let the Oregon Clean Fuels Program expire. Please oppose SB 324.

Sincerely,

Robert Miller local Business Owner