



April 29, 2021

Chair Beyer and Committee Members
Senate Energy and Environment Committee

RE: HB 2027

Chair Beyer and Members of the Committee:

Climate Solutions is a regional non-profit working to accelerate clean energy solutions to the climate crisis. Forth is a nonprofit trade association that advocates for the advancement of electric, hydrogen, shared, smart, connected, and autonomous mobility. Founded in 1968, the Oregon Environmental Council (OEC) is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, membership-based organization advancing innovative, collaborative and equitable solutions to Oregon's environmental challenges for today and future generations.

We support 2027-A. It both clarifies the role of DAS in setting meter rates in capitol area parking facilities, discourages single occupancy vehicles and accelerates the goal for transitioning the state light duty fleet to electric and zero emission vehicles by 2025.

The transportation sector comprises the largest portion of greenhouse gas emissions in Oregon – roughly 40% - and those emissions are growing. Recognizing this challenge, in 2019, the Legislature passed an important bill, SB 1044, that established ambitious statewide goals for vehicle electrification and zero emission vehicles (by 2025, at least 250,000 registered motor vehicles, and by 2035, at least 90% of all new motor vehicle sales). However, the bill also included a much less ambitious goal – that by 2029, state agencies purchase or lease all new zero emission light duty vehicles provided it is feasible (and removing a provision requiring that, if feasible, 25% of new and leased light duty vehicles be zero emission by 2025). That goal was not ambitious in 2019 and it is certainly outdated today given the rapid increase in car companies producing all electric vehicles. In the context of state fleets, Oregon should lead by example and demonstrate to the public the path to transition to light duty zero emission vehicles.

Indeed, since the passage of SB 1044, Washington and California have demonstrated such public leadership and updated their state fleet zero emission goals. Washington now requires that at least 50% of new purchased and leased state light duty vehicles be zero emission as of 2020 (up from 20% by 2020 previously). California requires that 100% of new purchased and leased state light duty vehicles be zero emission as of 2020 (up from 50% by 2025 previously). And recently, President Biden announced a goal of transitioning the entire federal fleet (not just light duty vehicles) to zero emission.



We commend DAS for its recent efforts and planning to install hundreds of new EV charging outlets at its Salem motor pool and throughout the capitol area. This is a necessary step in creating the infrastructure for zero emission vehicles. We trust DAS will expand that effort beyond Salem to other state agency motor pools in the coming biennium. That would result in EV ready infrastructure and feasibility for only purchase or lease of zero emission light duty vehicles by 2025.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Meredith Connolly in black ink.

Meredith Connolly
Oregon Director
Climate Solutions

Handwritten signature of Rhett Lawrence in black ink.

Rhett Lawrence,
Pacific Northwest Policy Manager
Forth

Handwritten signature of Sara Wright in black ink.

Sara Wright
Program Director, Transportation
Oregon Environmental Council