

May 3, 2021

To: Members of the House Committee on Energy and Environment
From: Renewable Hydrogen Alliance
Date: May 3, 2021

RE: Senate Bill 314A

Dear Chair Marsh and Members of the Committee:

The Renewable Hydrogen Alliance (RHA) is an Oregon based trade association of over 75 members that promotes using renewable electricity to produce hydrogen and other clean fuels to supplant fossil fuel consumption across multiple sectors. Our diverse membership represents local and global businesses such as equipment and vehicle manufacturers, utilities, renewable energy project developers and clean fuels producers, as well as advocacy groups and a Pacific Northwest tribe.

RHA appreciates Senate Bill 314A's parity treatment of investor owned utility investments in both battery electric vehicle and hydrogen fuel cell electric vehicle (FCEV) infrastructure. We join the many others who are supporting this bill for its goals of accelerating EV and FCEV adoption and infrastructure development, and achieving the economic, air quality, and decarbonization benefits of transportation electrification.

One of RHA's aims is to break down barriers to hydrogen fueling development in the Pacific Northwest and ensure that the appropriate infrastructure is in place to advance, in particular, renewable hydrogen availability in the region. This is necessary to attract both renewable hydrogen production and use projects in transportation and other sectors that will accelerate the widespread deployment and adoption of zero emission vehicles. This can help not just the region, but Oregon specifically, transition to a clean energy economy in order to achieve its greenhouse gas emission goals.

SB 314A is also timely as its effect of promoting adoption of FCEVs coincides with Oregon's I-5 corridor receiving "Hydrogen-Pending Corridor" designation by the Federal Highway Administration. Furthermore, hydrogen refueling infrastructure in the region is advancing with a station expected to be operational by mid year in Chehalis, Washington and a request for information on hydrogen fueling options just released by Tri-Met.

To get to a decarbonized economy, we need all clean energy pathways and tools and need to act quickly. RHA supports SB 314A and urges Committee members to support as well.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony and please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,



Michelle Detwiler
Executive Director