

January 28, 2021

Representative Paul Evans, Chair House Committee on Veterans and Emergency Management

RE: PPGA Comments on HB 2881

Dear Chair Evans and Members of the Committee:

The Pacific Propane Gas Association (PPGA) is the state trade association representing Oregon's propane industry. PPGA is seeking some clarification regarding the applicability of the proposed \$15 surcharge on limited plan review for fire and life safety; the revenue being deposited State Fire Marshal Fund to pay the costs of implementing and administering the statewide Oregon Safety Assessment Program.

While we believe the intent is to apply the surcharge to buildings regulated by the State Fire Marshal for use and occupancy, not the tanks themselves, we are seeking clarification that the legislation would not capture customer tanks at homes or businesses. Our members already pay OSFM a \$50 fee for all new customer tank sets or customer tank swap outs. We believe an additional \$15 fee would be excessive.

If customer tank sets are included, then we respectfully ask for an exemption for them. This would unduly increase price for individual consumers who have a propane tank set in their backyard.

Thank you for the consideration of these comments. We look forward to working with you on this issue.

Sincerely,

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