

Submitter: Wade Flegel
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation
Measure: HB4141

Joint Committee on Transportation,

I am a fourth-generation farmer in Central Oregon. We rely heavily on diesel fuel not only for our tractors and harvest equipment, but we also use it in trucks to transport our harvested crops to market. The areas targeted for early removal of retail sales happens to be areas that we sell our crops in, therefore we would not be able to purchase fuel in those areas and it would cause a hardship on our ability to deliver goods.

We are in our third year of drought and the cost of inputs are increasing while our crop production and price are unknown. We need a good quality and economically priced fuel. It is doubtful that Oregon will have a high-quality biodiesel in full supply and at a price that is affordable before the retail sales are stopped. Schools that have gone with 100% biodiesel have had problems with gelling of fuel in cold weather. The technology to produce high quality low cloud renewable fuel has not been perfected yet. Petroleum diesel is still superior to its renewable counterpart. Some of the oil producing crops to produce biodiesel cannot be grown in parts of the state of Oregon further making it hard for Oregon to become able to grow their own renewable fuels.

We need a reliable and good quality source of diesel for our farm to succeed. HB 4141 is not looking with reality at the time it would take to make sure all industry has enough renewable fuel to support the current needs before it goes into effect. Oppose HB 4141 it's not good for our industry and it's not good for Oregon.