

Submitter: Jon Gailis
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Rules
Measure: HB4158

February 15, 2022

TO: House Rules Committee Chairman, Smith Warner,
Vice Chairman Breese-Iverson, Vice-Chair Fahey
and members of the House Rules Committee

From: Jacksonville Engine Co #1, Jon Gailis, President

We understand that your HB 4158 is intended to support a technical change to the current Oregon E-Cycles Program to allow DEQ to change the projected goal of materials estimated to come into the program in 2022 and retain existing collection sites that are being dropped from the program on March 1, 2022: most disturbing is the removal of Rogue Disposal as a collection site.

Our City of Jacksonville is situated 15 miles, 25 minutes from Rogue Disposal's transfer station in White City. Our Public Works drives to the site twice a week and they have agreed to take our electronics to the electronics drop-off area. Jacksonville residents routinely deliver unwanted electronics to Rogue Disposal as well. This site is convenient inasmuch as once there, materials can be left in the designated area without the assistance of RD employees. Not just the convenience of the site – it is important that we have confidence in the competent handling of the material once accepted. An ongoing program to sort, box and containerize these electronics properly is in evidence.

We are highly visible on the streets of Jacksonville and there are many opportunities to assist residents who often resort to leaving unwanted items in parking lots and on sidewalks in hopes street-side garbage pickup will magically take care of the desired disposal. Anyone who wears a uniform in Jacksonville might be asked how/where/when to dispose of electronics – perhaps a small-town issue where asking a question of someone presumed to be in charge is an attractive option. Our population is just 2800 people but they do expect the Fire Department to have good information about such matters. We are routinely asked to change batteries in home fire alarms!

To learn that a competent, trusted and well-known disposal site for home electronics might be dropped from the State's program is ill-timed, destabilizing and impractical – all for reasons seemingly quite difficult to comprehend by the general public. Given that the maintenance of a manageable system for recycling of electronics is the

overall goal of the State, we support your House Bill 4158 to retain existing disposal sites.

Thank you.

Jacksonville Engine Co #1

Jon Gailis, President