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# OREGON BUSINESSES OPPOSE SENATE BILL 803

Before the Senate Energy and Environment Committee / March 9, 2023

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Chair Sollman and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of the Northwest Auto Trades Association, the Oregon Power Sports Association, the Oregon RV Dealers Association, the Oregon State Association of Plumbing-Heating-Cooling Contractors, the Oregon Vehicle Dealers Association, and the Professional Land Surveyors of Oregon, we oppose Senate Bill 803.

The ability to move products – locally, regionally, nationally, and internationally, currently depends on vehicles which use diesel fuel. Oregon businesses – small and large – depend on diesel fueled vehicles.

There are exciting innovations on the horizon. Their use should be explored, encouraged, perhaps even subsidized to help them advance in the marketplace. But Senate Bill 803 is simply too bold. It is too much, too fast, and fails to adequately acknowledge the impact of the international and national markets on Oregon. We are simply too small to drive industry mandates. And there simply won't be sufficient capacity to allow existing diesel to be replaced on the timetable established in the bill.

We are not opposed to using government mandates to spur innovation and encourage growth in emerging products. Government may have an important role by funding research and incenting the use of emerging fuel sources. However, while the government can have a positive impact; it can also discourage investment and growth by creating such a volatile economic atmosphere that existing businesses choose not to grow and outside businesses fail to even consider Oregon as a location or marketplace because the role of government is simply too pervasive and creates too much uncertainty and instability.

We appreciate the efforts underlying the work on Senate Bill 803, but we urge the Committee to not move the bill forward this session. Thank you.

