

Submitter: Wade Flegel

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Energy and Environment

Measure: SB803

Chair Sollman, Vice Chair Findley and Committee Members,

Thank you for reading my testimony. My name is Wade Flegel and our family farms in Crook County, which has been in a four-year drought. My grandmother who was born in 1899 and grew up in Crook County would tell us about the multi-year hot dry drought of the 30's. So, this drought is not new to the area or to farming. While weather issues are still the same our farming practices were different; they used horses and manual labor while we use diesel tractors and machines. Farmers in the past had stressful times and farmers today have stress, the increase in rules and regulations have been a big part of our stress.

We have tried to use B20 diesel and have had our vehicles shut down because of clogged fuel filters during cold temperatures. We need to be able to transport our goods to market all times of the year. Changing fuels is not easy for our farm as we try to buy diesel when prices drop and not just when we our tanks are very low. This means that we would possibly have too much fuel that could gel in our tanks during the cold winter. We continue to have an increase in expenses because of legislation, rulemaking and ballot measures like the CAT tax please don't saddle us with another requirement.

Our equipment continues to improve on meeting exhaust emissions standards, and we are good stewards of our land. Our family has lived and farmed in Oregon for generations, and we hope to continue to farm in Oregon for generations to come. This bill is not needed for our state. Don't drive good citizens out of Oregon; oppose SB 803.

Thank you,
Wade Flegel