

Submitter: Christopher Hall

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Energy and Environment

Measure: SB525

I have long been appalled at the use of gas leaf blowers, as a NE Portland resident for 35 years I am uncomfortably aware of the proliferation of these noisy, polluting beasts. On my neighborhood walk this morning I could hear a blower from 3 blocks away, I then witnessed the man using it chasing 3 leaves across a street, doing little more than blowing street dirt into the air while blasting that obnoxious 90+ decibel noise. He wore no hearing or eye protection nor a mask. What an egregious act, replicated thousands of times daily in our city. The ecological hazards of these devices are well documented and don't need to be listed here, but perhaps if the well-to-do homeowners who employ these crews encouraged them to transition to electric blowers ( I understand there is a grant available to help with the cost of transitioning) we could improve this situation to everyone's benefit. I occasionally use an electric blower when required (mostly rakes and brooms) and it does an excellent job with significantly less noise or pollution. Please support this bill and let's join the many other communities in this country who are freeing themselves from the dangers of noise, pollution and worker safety.

Thank you

Christopher Hall

NE Portland