

Submitter: Helena Birecki

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Energy and Environment

Measure: SB525

Hello Chair Sollman, Vice-Chair Findley, and Members of the Senate Committee on Energy and the Environment,

I live in Tillamook County and strongly support adopting rules to phase out polluting Small Nonroad Engines in favor of zero emissions ones which are already on the market and work great as well as being lighter, less noisy, and less toxic to work with.

I am concerned with the deletions in amendment 1.

Per location I agree it has the most public health value to stop the use of Small Nonroad Engines in the biggest population areas first. However, as written, amendment 1 would limit the beneficial effects of this bill to Portland. It would leave about 85% of Oregon's population with no benefit at all.

It's also important to consider the Small Nonroad Engines in addition to leafblowers which people use here in Tillamook County, such as lawn mowers, weed trimmers, chain saws, and golf carts. The pollution from these harms us too.

Please consider bringing back and enhancing the parts of the bill that would help people outside of Portland make the healthy, climate friendly transition too.

Sincerely,
Helena Birecki
Climate Reality Project volunteer

References:

<https://cleantechnica.com/2021/10/13/its-time-to-ban-gas-powered-landscaping-equipment/>

https://www.oregon-demographics.com/cities_by_population