

Date: April 7, 2023 To: Joint Committee on Transportation RE: HB 2613, Zero Emission Incentive Fund

Co-Chair McLain, Co-Chair Gorsek, Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on behalf of Monarch Tractor. Monarch Tractor is the maker of the world's first fully electric, driver optional tractor. As advocates for sustainable farm practices, Monarch is urging the Legislature to consider adding off road and agricultural vehicles into the Zero Emission Incentive Fund established through the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ).

As it stands, there are currently no rebates or incentives for electric agricultural vehicles or tractors in Oregon. As our state seeks to shift vehicles to cleaner, more environmentally friendly electric vehicles, it is critical that we offer incentives beyond just on-road vehicles. Including agricultural vehicles or tractors in the Zero Emission Incentive Fund will allow Oregon to provide incentives for farmers to transition to more efficient and cleaner tractors and vehicles, while still accounting for market challenges and availability of the equipment.

For the reasons listed above, we ask that the legislature include off road and agricultural vehicles to the Department of Environmental Quality's Zero Emission Incentive Fund to help both agribusiness and the environment.

Thank you for your consideration,

Montana Lewellen On Behalf of Monarch Tractor