

Submitter: Matthew Brady
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3119

My name is Matthew Brady and I am a 5th generation family farmer in support of HB3119. I believe that the delay in implementation of the Advanced Clean Trucks regulations is necessary for farmers in Oregon to continue as successful businesses.

The current market for zero-emission heavy-duty vehicles is still developing. Delaying the ACT regulations provides time for the market to mature, leading to more affordable and reliable options for farmers and ranchers. This postponement allows agricultural businesses to plan and budget for future investments in new equipment without facing immediate financial strain.

The widespread adoption of zero-emission vehicles requires substantial infrastructure, such as charging stations, which are severely limited. There is only ONE public charging station in Oregon, and it's estimated that there are only 14 in the entire United States. A delay grants time for the necessary infrastructure to be developed, ensuring that farmers and ranchers have access to the resources needed to operate zero-emission vehicles effectively.

Zero-emission vehicle technology, particularly for heavy-duty applications, is rapidly evolving. A delay allows for further advancements, resulting in more efficient and reliable vehicles that better meet the demanding needs of agricultural operations.

The current supply chain for zero-emission vehicles and their components is constrained, leading to limited availability and potentially higher costs. Farmers and ranchers are ill-equipped to absorb these higher costs and cannot pass these costs on to consumers. Postponing the implementation of the ACT regulations provides time for the supply chain to stabilize, ensuring that farmers and ranchers can procure the necessary equipment without facing shortages or inflated prices.

Delaying the ACT regulations allows Oregon to align its policies with federal standards, reducing regulatory complexity for farmers and ranchers who operate across state lines. This alignment can prevent potential conflicts and ensure a more straightforward compliance process.

Supporting HB 3119 offers Oregon farmers and ranchers a more practical timeline to transition to zero-emission vehicles, considering economic, infrastructural, technological, and regulatory factors.