

## Testimony of the Washington County Chamber of Commerce House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment January 30, 2025

Good morning, Chair Lively, Vice Chairs Gamba and Levy, and Members of the House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment,

I am Josh Tompkins, Chair of the Public Policy Committee for the Washington County Chamber of Commerce, and I am here today to provide testimony in support of HB 3119, requesting a delay in the implementation of certain motor vehicle emissions standards. This delay is essential to balancing Oregon's environmental goals with the economic realities faced by businesses and families.

Our Chamber represents diverse businesses in Washington County, including manufacturers, farmers, tradespeople, and transportation providers, many of whom rely on medium- and heavy-duty diesel vehicles. While transitioning to cleaner technologies is essential, the current timeline poses significant challenges, including the lack of affordable electric vehicle alternatives and insufficient infrastructure to support them.

The effects of the current rule are far-reaching:

- **Farmers and agricultural workers** face risks to their operations without durable and functional vehicle options.
- Builders and tradespeople struggle to meet project demands without suitable heavyduty trucks.
- Logistics companies risk disruptions in critical supply chains.

Additionally, Oregon's electric grid is not prepared for the increased demand these vehicles would require. Addressing these issues before imposing mandates is crucial.

We urge the Committee to support HB 3119 to provide time for manufacturers to scale electric vehicle technology, for infrastructure improvements, and for collaboration on practical solutions that balance environmental and economic priorities.

Oregon can continue its leadership in sustainability while ensuring businesses and communities have the resources they need to succeed.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify, and I welcome any questions.

Respectfully submitted,
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