

Submitter: Sarah Schartz

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3119

I support HB 3119. I am an excavation company owner and raise a flock of sheep and my family's livelihood depends on heavy duty pick-ups. These are the vehicles that haul our equipment, materials, supplies, feed and animals. Requiring business owners, ranchers and farmers to purchase EV vehicles shows a distinct lack of understanding of how those businesses work.

Currently, there are no EV heavy duty trucks on the market that satisfy the tow capacity needed for our business. Additionally, there are no EV vehicles on which you can exchange the factory bed for a flat bed or shop box. These are critical vehicle components to many Oregonians.

The infrastructure for EV vehicles is not suitable in Oregon for ranchers, farmers or construction businesses. Many people in these industries work more than a traditional 9-5 day. Those days are longer in the summer time. They put a lot of miles on their vehicles during those long days. It is not realistic for these folks to have to sit and wait for a charge mid-day when there are animals to water, crops to harvest at the optimum time or work to be done in remote areas.

The time required for charging vehicles and the limited range they can drive is unrealistic for many in the farming, ranching and construction businesses. As an example, if a rancher in Roseburg, Oregon needs to drive to Idaho to purchase animals, it's currently a long day's drive – but the rancher would drive there, stay the night, load up the animals and drive back the next day.

With an EV – the drive may not be able to be completed in one day. Then the rancher would have to find a charging station that they can get into with a trailer (I haven't seen one of those yet) and then they would have to stay the night, which would likely be short of the destination. The next morning, they would have to complete the drive to pick up the animals and drive back as far as they could on a charge and again find a place to charge where a trailer will fit. All of this lengthens the time animals are in a trailer. By then, it is likely that the rancher would need to spend another night or drive into the wee hours of the morning to get home. When hauling animals, time is of the essence, the longer animals stay in a trailer without feed and water, the more susceptible they are to illness.

I am not opposed to all EV's. There are some interesting technologies for heavy-duty vehicles and trucks that are developing in Canada, that our family is interested in.

However, they have not expanded to commercial production yet.

The production, availability and infrastructure are not in place. Please support HB 3119

Sarah Schartz