1/30/2025

Written testimony in support of HB 3119

My name is Becky Berger and I own and operate Berger International, an Oregon 6th generation farming operation. I'm speaking in support of HB 3119. We farm in 3 counties and are quite spread out. We have several semi trucks that we use to transport our seed to our cleaning plant, wheat to Portland and hazelnuts to the processors. I can quote the facts regarding the negatives of an EV truck mandate such as the exorbitant cost that could put the final nail in the coffin of the struggling family farm, the obvious lack of infrastructure and point out the much heavier weight of a EV truck which require the trucks to move less product in a trip, requiring more trips up and down our roads to move the same amount of pounds. However, I'm going to focus on the possible consequences, both intended and unintended. Have we studied this enough? It's not always wise to be among the first adopters. This reminds me of the ag overtime bill that was passed. It sounded good, it perhaps felt good for those who voted for it but I heard from several democratic legislators last year that voiced their regret over passing that. It, in fact, has shown it has been hurting the people it was targeted to help. So, let's learn from this and from other states that are rolling back their mandates. Let's adopt the physicians creed of "first do not harm". Let's slow down and make wise and measured decisions that we someday won't regret. Again, I implore you "first, do no harm"

I thank you for your time and consideration,

Becky Berger

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