

January 30th 2025

Chair Lively and Members of House Committee on Climate, Energy, and Environment,

On behalf of the Tigard Area Chamber of Commerce and the diverse businesses we represent, I am writing to express our strong support for HB 3119, which seeks to delay the implementation of certain motor vehicle emission regulations in Oregon until January 1st 2027.

While we appreciate the efforts to improve environmental sustainability, the current regulations impose significant challenges on small and mid-sized businesses across key industries, including construction, logistics, and our trade sectors that are vital to Tigard's economy. Many of these businesses rely on vehicles and equipment that cannot yet be affordably or feasibly replaced under the new mandates. The financial burden of compliance would hinder growth, force job losses, and disproportionately impact small and mid-sized businesses that are already navigating economic uncertainties at this time.

Additionally, Oregon's infrastructure is not yet equipped to support a widespread and rapid transition to electric vehicles, particularly for businesses that rely on commercial fleets or specialized equipment. The limited availability of charging stations, high conversion costs, and supply chain constraints for compliant vehicles present real barriers that must be addressed before mandates take effect. Many businesses depend on diesel-powered equipment that provides superior fuel efficiency and range, and without practical alternatives, they risk operational setbacks that could negatively impact the local economy.

A balanced, phased-in approach is critical to ensuring that businesses have the time and resources necessary to adapt to these regulations without causing unintended economic harm. We urge you to support House Bill 3119 to ensure Oregon's environmental policies align with economic realities and the long-term sustainability of our business community.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Regards,

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Megan De Salvo CEO, Tigard Area Chamber of Commerce Building Business. Growing Together. 12345 SW Main Street Tigard OR 97223