

Submitter: Richard Olson

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3119

Testimonial in Support of HB3119 – Pausing Oregon’s EV Mandate

As the owner of Darlings Marina & RV Resort on the Oregon Coast, I strongly support HB3119, which pauses the electric vehicle mandate in our state. Our business relies on tourism, specifically travelers who tow RVs, fifth wheels, and ATVs to the coast. The current EV mandate threatens the viability of my business and the entire outdoor recreation economy in Oregon.

Electric vehicles are simply not practical for pulling travel trailers or operating motorhomes. Towing significantly reduces battery range, and Oregon’s rural highways lack the infrastructure to support heavy-duty EV travel. The reality is that the majority of RV owners use gas- or diesel-powered vehicles because they provide the power, range, and reliability necessary for long-distance towing.

If this mandate proceeds without consideration for real-world limitations, it will deter tourism and harm small businesses like mine that depend on RV and ATV enthusiasts. Oregon’s economy thrives on outdoor recreation, and we need practical policies that support—not hinder—our ability to welcome visitors.

I urge legislators to pass HB3119 and ensure that Oregon’s transition to cleaner energy does not come at the cost of our tourism industry and small businesses.

Richard W. Olson, Jr.
Owner, Darlings Marina & RV Resort