

Submitter: John Roberts

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3119

Chair Lively and members of the Committee,

I write in support to HB 3119, which would extend the deadline for full implementation and compliance with the Advanced Clean Trucks (ACT) rule. In my law practice I work with small business owners that struggle to keep pace with the ever shifting regulatory environment that affects them. Even when the ultimate goal of compliance is laudable - and a goal of reducing emissions is certainly that - it is undeniably a challenge to keep up. HB 3119 is a much needed reprieve for business owners who are not able to operate effectively and competitively if full ACT compliance remains required now.

An additional two years before full implementation will allow further development of zero emissions vehicle infrastructure which will in turn make the use of such vehicles viable in our rural communities. As it stands now, the lack of infrastructure places a heavy burden on those businesses who are unable to upgrade their equipment to compliant models, and instead must continue to use old equipment beyond its useful life, often equipment which is dirtier than newer equipment which doesn't meet the zero emissions standards set forth in the rule. Implementation of the rule now is the sort of all-or-nothing solution that stands in the way of incremental improvement toward achieving our climate goals. The Legislature should not let perfect be the enemy of good, and should instead allow the brief pause in implementation while the infrastructure and technology catch up to the rule.