

Submitter: Alex Staben
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Energy and Environment
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB685
Subject: Support for SB 685 – Hydrogen Oversight and Public Notice Legislation

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee,

My name is Alex Staben, and I live in The Dalles. Oregon's current regulatory framework lacks sufficient oversight and notice requirements for blending hydrogen into natural gas residential home pipelines. This regulatory gap poses significant risks for ratepayers, public safety, and environmental health. This is why I support SB 685 to provide hydrogen blending oversight and public notice.

Oregonians deserve to know what's being piped into their homes. Public utilities should not be experimenting with hydrogen blending without notifying impacted communities. Regulations are essential to public safety and transparency.

Hydrogen blending is risky. Hydrogen can make pipelines brittle and subject to leaks and even explosions. SB 685 will create safety protocols for blending to protect our homes from these risks.

If and when natural gas companies decide to pipe blended methane and hydrogen gas into homes, ratepayers deserve to be informed.

I strongly urge you to support SB 685.

Sincerely,

Alex Staben
The Dalles