

Submitter: Eric Lee

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2738

I am writing in strong support of HB 2738, which would prohibit the use of leaded fuel at Portland International Raceway (PIR). As a homeowner in North Portland and a parent of two children under 10, I am deeply concerned that leaded fuel is still permitted at PIR despite overwhelming scientific evidence of its dangers.

For years, I have been flabbergasted that this practice continues in our city. The risks of lead exposure—especially for children—are well-documented. Even small amounts of lead can cause permanent neurological damage, learning disabilities, and behavioral issues. Lead does not break down in the environment, meaning emissions from PIR contribute to long-term contamination of our air and soil.

I chose to raise my family in Portland because of its strong environmental values, but allowing leaded fuel use at PIR is completely at odds with those values. Many racing organizations have already transitioned to unleaded fuel, and PIR should do the same. There is no justification for continuing a practice that puts our children, our neighbors, and our environment at risk.

This continued use of leaded fuel has forced me to consider relocating my family for our long-term health. During the summer, I avoid letting my children play outside in our neighborhood whenever races are happening, fearing the impact of airborne lead exposure. No family should have to make these choices.

I urge you to pass HB 2738 and take a stand for public health and environmental responsibility. Thank you for your leadership in addressing this critical issue.

Sincerely,  
Eric Lee