

Committee members and everyone listening, I strongly oppose Oregon House Bill 2738. HB 2738 is asking to Ban the use of “Leaded Race Fuel” on any racetrack within a population of 500,000 or greater. Why is it City’s with a population of over 500,000? We all know that there is only one city in the state larger than 500,000 and coincidentally it also has a “World Recognized” racetrack, Portland International Raceway. So, this legislation is targeting PIR only. There are numerous other tracks in the state near smaller communities. Do you not care about all the smaller community’s health? It doesn’t target any other cities/towns that have racetracks throughout Oregon. The truth is this bill is singling out PIR and PIR alone.

This bill is driven by a very small but vocal group of residents near the track that have wanted it closed for many years now. They have tried numerous ways to do this and now this is their next attempt. From crowds and traffic to noise and now lead, these individuals have found a willing ear now with Rep. Travis Nelson. They have worked to have misleading and factually inaccurate articles written and “research studies” that are not scientifically based. Rep Nelson hosted a townhall last weekend and stated that “The Guardian” did research and their research is showing that schools within a 2-mile radius of PIR have lower reading and math scores. Really? I didn’t know that a study of children in the N. Portland area was conducted. What Scientific Firm conducted this study? What was their sampling pool? What other items could affect the lower math and reading scores? Did they test any children for lead in their system? Or was this just political science?

Portland’s NBC affiliate KGW has an interesting take and it doesn’t appear to be a “Portland only” problem:

<https://www.kgw.com/article/news/education/oregon-students-math-reading-data-lag-behind/283-89b5f3eb-7cc2-4033-89ed-c1d5bfadfa58>

Why don't they use the research done in 2016 by OSU and cite the video that investigates this problem?

<https://pdxair.uoregon.edu/2016/05/29/the-kenton-lead-blob/>

This 10-minute video called "The Kenton Lead Blob", looks at the research that was done and comes to some interesting conclusions. They did a significant amount of research, including Portland International Raceway (PIR). They tested soil at PIR as well as many other North Portland locations. PIR and numerous other areas were well below the federal hazard level of 400 parts per million. PIR was lower than numerous samples in Kenton and surrounding neighborhoods. The report ultimately finds that older homes with lead paint and asbestos siding and old vinyl flooring that were demolished most likely were the main contributing factors.

Better yet why don't they accept the findings done by Oregon Department of Quality and the Oregon Health Authority? That report done in the fall of 2022 took the Scientific Findings done in 2017 by G2 Consultants Industrial Hygiene Assessment for PIR and the City. The assessment indicated that detectable concentrations of lead were observed at the PIR office roof, patio & pre-grid at both sampling events as well as non-detectable concentrations at turn 11 and the south property line during both events. All results were well below the regulatory exposure limits established by OR-OSHA and recommended by the ACGIH. Based on the data collected, a **definitive source(s) of the observed airborne lead cannot be determined** since lead was present during both the vintage car festival and the track night event. Other potential sources of lead beyond Leaded Race Fuel from vehicles on the track could potentially be contributing to the observed concentrations

of airborne lead at this site. Other factors include but may not be limited to the adjacent freeway located east of PIR, nearby industrial company sources, both Portland Glass Company and Malarkey Roofing were producing extremely harmful toxins and/or re-entrainment from previous contamination events on the site. This is all stated in the G2 report, that I am sure you all have.

If you choose to follow “Political Science” and not “Real Science” what would this ban on a “Legal-for-use” fuel mean? Track users will be forced to go to other tracks, some out of the state. That will lead to fewer participants and lost revenue to the track. PIR, while owned by the City of Portland, is an “Enterprise fund” facility. The track is SELF-SUPPORTIVE and not part of the general fund. NO TAX DOLLARS FUND THE TRACK. That loss in revenue will imperil the financial viability of the track and ultimately close it. Now you put more financial burden on a city already deeply in debt. How about the impact on businesses? Economic impact numbers to the city and surrounding area say that PIR brings between \$30-40 million from events at the track. Now you have jobs that are lost by local individuals with the closing track.

PIR hosts two World Recognized race events, the NASCAR X-Finity Series and the NTT IndyCar series. Not only do 25-30,000 people attend each of those races, but they are also broadcast on Network TV. Each race has over 1 million households viewing the race. That means over 2 million households get to see Portland in a good light. NBC Sports and FOX Sports have shown a beautiful city and not the Homeless drug-using crime ridden city it has become.

I would like to close this by saying thank you for listening to my thoughts. As you may have seen with others, we are passionate about our track. We have over 64 years of wonderful memories. Hundreds of

thousands of people have been to the track, whether as a racer or a fan. Generations have participated at the track and I would like to close with an uplifting story. One of PIR's third generation racers:

<https://www.columbian.com/news/2025/feb/15/back-to-the-races-vancouver-drag-racer-returns-to-his-passion-after-beating-cancer-in-his-teens/>

Thank you