

Submitter: J. A.

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 young children, I am deeply concerned that leaded fuel is still permitted at PIR despite overwhelming scientific evidence of its dangers, especially to children and pregnant women.

Kenton Park which is home to the Portland Free Lunch and Play program is within approximately 1 mile to the PIR racetrack. We are encouraging children to gather in a space where we could be doing them harm. In addition there are outdoor farmers markets, community gardens as well as the many homeowners, families and children that all call Kenton and North Portland home. To continue to allow lead exposure to the neighbors in this community is dangerous to human health.

NASCAR banned leaded fuel in 2007. The shift away from leaded gasoline allowed people to see the negative impacts leaded gas had on communities. A paper in the American Economic Journal: Economic Policy found that the use of leaded gasoline in NASCAR until 2007 had negative health effects on communities near race tracks.

The science is clear that leaded gasoline harms the people in communities especially those that are most vulnerable. We need to do better for the members of North Portland.

I ask all of the Oregon State Representatives to support the bill and vote to approve resolution HB 2738 to protect our community's health and wellbeing.

Thank you.