

Re: House Bill 2738

OPPOSED

I am writing to oppose the bill being introduced to eliminate the use of leaded fuel at Portland International Raceway. Although the track is not specifically named, I see this as a blatant attempt to target PIR based on the 500,000 or greater city population called out. If this goes through, the track (city park) will no longer be viable economically. The events/users that historically use the track will be forced to move to other venues. If the track goes away so does millions of dollars of income to the surrounding area. It will be a major economic blow to the city and county. The track draws users and fans from all around the area and even from around the world for the major professional races. Fans and users buy hotels, meals, fuel, transportation, and shopping trips which brings in countless dollars. The major pro events also bring positive notoriety to the area and Lord knows Portland and Multnomah County can use all of the good publicity it can garner.

I am a racer and volunteer at the track and have been for decades. It brings groups and families together for a sport loved by generations. It keeps "racers" and auto enthusiasts off the streets and gives them a safe place to enjoy their hobby. The events also support many local charity groups. The various clubs and "car culture" donates many thousands of dollars every year to local charities.

Based on the science (reference the 2017 study done by SGS) there is no evidence to support the claims that lead is causing harm to the local neighborhood. It was shown that the particles did not spread (leave the immediate area). There has been for years, an effort by a few members of the Kenton Neighborhood to close down the track. Their passed argument has been based on a perceived noise issue. I see this as their way to further their cause by introducing another issue even though it is based on flawed information. Does the "Spotted Owl" fiasco of the 80's targeting the wood products industry ring a bell?.

Please vote to toss this bill. It makes no sense and will be a huge detriment to the area if passed.

Steven Powell  
Beavercreek, OR.