

Testimony in Opposition to House Bill 2738

As a former General Manager of Portland International Raceway, I personally experienced opposition and support of many types during my six-year tenure. Fortunately during those years objectivity, information based on data and exchange of information primarily ruled the times. Questions were answered, and the effort to operate a significant small business for the city fairly and successfully was strong with positive results. But there was a small contingent of people who hid behind false claims, false alignment with causes and who had spent years just trying anything to get the track closed.

Unfortunately, this latest effort is based on desperation by those same individuals, with a few recruits, who have pushed to create the bill. These individuals have a history of bouncing from one issue to another simply to try and close the facility. The authors of it have no interest or concern about leaded fuel, it is simply the latest tact in an extensive list of “causes” they have tried to use over the years as why the track should be closed.

If they had real concern about leaded fuel at the track, wouldn't they:

- Take the fight to the EPA who has the purview over fuels in the United States. (Not cities). They decide where leaded fuel is allowed. According to the EPA, leaded fuel is still allowed for off-road vehicles like aircraft, racing cars, farm equipment, and marine engines.
 - o Why are the proponents of this bill not including banning use aircraft, in farm equipment and marine engines?
- Be asking for air studies of the diesel emissions that pour into the Kenton neighborhood every day as thousands of tractor/trailer trucks sit idling in traffic on Interstate 5 each day and more truck terminals are built in the neighborhood each year?
 - o EPA data: <https://www.epa.gov/dera/learn-about-impacts-diesel-exhaust-and-diesel-emissions-reduction-act-dera>
- The same can be asked what about the thousands of flights by aircraft over the neighborhood and their emissions?
 - o <https://www.epa.gov/regulations-emissions-vehicles-and-engines/regulations-greenhouse-gas-emissions-aircraft>

PIR did complete an independent air study during a Vintage Racing Weekend a few years ago and the results showed the amount of emissions did not have a health effect within the property and certainly not off it.

The bill states for racetracks located with a population of 500,000 or more. Could it be any more obvious this bill is arbitrary, subjective and biased targeting only Portland International Raceway?

This legislation is absurd and only in the best interest of a few individuals who have spent years complaining about something that has brought economic value, the preservation of wetlands, recreation, and prestige to the City of Portland. And most interesting, they moved into the neighborhood well after the track had been operating for years. Yet they believe they can fool government representatives by stating false claims about leaded fuel at the track and churn up a frenzy. The Oregon legislature needs to understand what this bill really is, the small number of people behind it, their biased agenda and the falsehoods on which it is based.

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