

Submitter: Douglas Berger
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2738

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony regarding this bill and my opposition to it.

First and foremost, the science and studies do not support or confirm a need for this legislation. I've heard claims that somehow children's test scores are being harmed, but that makes absolutely no sense either. (I think we all are aware test scores are dropping due to many other factors.) Portland International Raceway or fuel being used there has zero impact.

Secondly, this measure seems targeted and punitive as it targets just only one facility in the entire state, and if the use of the leaded fuel is as dangerous as they claim the bill should target such use at race tracks for the entire state, regardless of a city's population. However, it targets just this one specific facility where other Not In My Backyard efforts against the facility have failed to give the new-to-the-area residents their desired closure of a beloved recreational facility which has benefited the community for over 65 years. (Counting years of use prior to the official formation of PIR on the old Vanport roadways.)

This bill is a wolf in sheep's clothing, pretending to be about children's health, but that isn't what it is really about. We're talking about a North Portland area with mostly older homes, many still with lead paint, in a heavily industrial area with so many other, far more likely sources of harmful pollution, but this bill isn't about stopping dangerous pollution in the state, it is 100% about causing harm to a City of Portland facility which provides 100's of millions of dollars of positive economic impact for Portland and tourism for the entire state.

Bottom line, use of leaded fuel at Portland International Raceway is not the cause of the alleged harm, in fact, it does not appear to be causing any harm. (Use of lead fuel has declined significantly over the history of the facility, yet they claim the harm is increasing, which literally isn't possible and isn't consistent with the studies which have been conducted.)

If the use of leaded fuel was actually causing the alleged harm we'd see it happening from other facilities, in areas with much smaller population, who would deserve protection also, but clearly that isn't what this bill is really about. The studies showing no harm and below levels which would cause harm, and the targeted nature of this bill which impacts only one facility in the entire state clearly indicates it isn't about the

environment or potential pollution or potential harm and it is 100% about causing harm to a public recreational facility enjoyed by 500,000 people per year, and which provides great positive economic impact.

I hope you will vote against this bill, which isn't about protecting Oregonians nor Oregon's children.

Thank you for your time and attention.