

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

To Whom It May Concern,

I am a passionate car enthusiast and supporter of motorsports in the Portland community. I am writing to strongly oppose the proposed ban on leaded race fuel at Portland International Raceway (PIR).

PIR is the only dedicated race track in the Portland Metro area, providing a safe and legal space for racing and high-performance driving. For many of us, it is not just a track—it is a hub for car culture, a gathering place for enthusiasts, and a venue that keeps racing off public roads. The proposed ban threatens the future of many racing events at PIR, particularly for vintage and high-performance vehicles that rely on leaded fuel for proper engine function and longevity.

Leaded race fuel is essential for certain older race engines, which were designed before the transition to unleaded alternatives. These vehicles are a part of motorsports history, and without access to the proper fuel, many will be sidelined permanently. The reality is that race fuel emissions at PIR represent an incredibly small fraction of overall environmental impact compared to daily vehicle traffic in the city. Banning leaded fuel will not significantly benefit air quality, but it will harm racers, track operators, and the entire local motorsports community.

PIR has long been a respected, well-managed facility that adheres to strict environmental regulations while continuing to provide a space for motorsports. For decades, it has been a staple of Portland's car culture, offering a controlled, legal environment for racing rather than forcing enthusiasts onto public streets. The loss of leaded fuel could push some racers away, jeopardizing the viability of events and the future of PIR as a whole.

I urge decision-makers to consider the negative consequences of this ban and work with the racing community to find reasonable solutions. Whether through exemptions for race-only vehicles or a phased transition plan, there are ways to balance environmental concerns with preserving Portland's only race track. Please do not take away this critical resource from the automotive community.

Sincerely,

All Motorsports Enthusiast in the Portland/surrounding area.