

I write in opposition to House Bill 2768. It is clear that this bill is focused on Portland International Raceway and that is the first part of my opposition. If the use of leaded fuel for racing is bad why must it be tied to a threshold of 500,000 people? Is an area of 200,000, 50,000, 5,000, 1,000 or 100 any different?

I have read much but not all of the testimony submitted in favor of and in opposition to the proposed bill. In all that I read in support of this bill many were concerned with the health of their children or themselves due to the lead fuel usage at PIR. In none of that testimony did I see any reference to scientific studies that show that they or their children are being subjected to levels of lead that may cause them harm. The only study I am aware of was contracted by the City of Portland and performed by an independent testing agency. It showed that lead levels at the track are well below the Oregon-OSHA guidelines. I have seen no information and am not aware of any studies that have been performed in any residential areas within one mile of the track. Many people have voiced concern for their children which is fair yet none of them indicated they have had their children tested and were found to exhibit levels of lead above normal. If I were as concerned about my children as these people propose to be I would have already had them tested.

Representative Nelson submitted a presentation comparing PIR to three tracks that are located in the country. This is an unfortunate misrepresentation. There are over three hundred race tracks in the United States well over half of which are located in similar proximity to residential areas as PIR including the iconic Indianapolis Motor Speedway and Daytona International Raceway.

This bill should not move forward, as there is no foundation for its validity.