

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

I am a 30 year resident of North Portland, my family and myself are negatively affected by the overload of air emissions from cars and trucks - including race cars at the Portland International Racetrack (PIR). The air here smells bad and feels bad. Science backs up my personal observations that the air quality in this area poses health risks (check out Multnomah County's EJ Snapshot maps: <https://multco.us/news/multnomah-county-releases-environmental-justice-snapshot-report> . HB2738 addresses the very real health risks that PIR poses and presents a pathway forward that serves us all by cleaning up the air and removing dangerous lead emissions. HB2738 needs to pass; please vote to support this bill.

PIR is a major contributor to bad air and also to the health risks from lead. PIR has had decades to transition their racing vehicles to use unleaded gas - which was fully banned for on-road vehicles 29 years ago, in 1996. Think about how irresponsible it is to allow leaded fuel race cars to operate and pollute 65 years after the 1970 Clean Air Act, 55 years after 1974 - when vehicles began transitioning to unleaded fuel, and 29 years after the full ban on leaded gas for all on-road vehicles.

Why is it in any public interest to allowing race cars an exception for 3 decades, 4 decades, or 5 decades? There is no justification to continue to allow this clear health risk to continue. HB finally addresses this long-overdue public health danger by simply requiring that racers at PIR join with the rest of society. There is no justification for carving out extra pollution permissions for a recreational /entertainment activity: PIR is a 'special interest group' demanding special permission to pollute. Why?

If PIR was located in a sealed-off dome and the drivers and visitors could huff their own gas, that would limit the risk to those direct participants. But, PIR does not limit its risks to the participants and attendees. Instead, PIR spreads its pollution into the larger residential and commercial areas that are already heavily overburdened by air pollution.

PIR is located right in the center of I-5 corridor where it crosses with the Rivergate Industrial Area - the whole area is criss-crossed with major transit corridors that are filled with daily heavy freight and car traffic: I-5, Columbia Blvd, and Marine Drive. In addition, this area is en route to our active port, served by Union Pacific Railroad, Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway, and the Portland and western Railroad (the local port short line railroad) The trains on these tracks travel daily and often idle for

many hours - all producing even more diesel emissions.

HB2738 is important and needs to pass to defend public health. The clear choice in service of public health is to require that PIR join the rest of society, to shift to unleaded fuel. They already have been given decades to do this. There is no reason to wait any longer.