

Submitter: LeAnn Magee

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2067

I support House Bill 2067 for several reasons. First, as a clean energy advocate, I believe it is necessary to implement legislation which promotes the transition to clean energy applications. Residents of Washington County should be rewarded for choosing any appliances or tools which minimize their carbon output. Without such legislation, motivation often rests on the most affordable option at the point of purchase. Especially in today's unpredictable economy, people are looking to lower their costs for goods and services.

Secondly, as a resident in a neighborhood where lawn and landscaping services are regularly used by my neighbors, I can attest to the undesirable effects of gas powered leaf blowers. They are extremely loud and readily off-put gaseous fumes. While electric leaf blowers are currently not as powerful, I believe that with growing interest, the technology will arise in due time. Significant improvements will allow commercial landscape companies to do the same job using a much cheaper, quieter, and cleaner machine. One can find many examples of this speedy advancement in technology with other electric tools.

Finally, incentivizing electric tool purchases will improve our communities by encouraging all of us to save money while reducing noise and fossil fuel pollution. This creates an environment beneficial to plants, insects, birds and mammals who live in our backyards and green spaces. Supporting healthy environments benefits our own health and lowers the healthcare burden on society.

Thank you for considering incentivizing the purchase electric leaf blowers through a rebate program, and I hope that this is just the beginning of a great system for improving our overall health as a community.