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On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2067

Gas powered leaf blowers are hugely hazardous to human health and to the environment, as they can cause hearing loss, respiratory ailments, cardiovascular disease, and cancer. Do you know how people are instructed to stay indoors when wildfire smoke is present because the fine particulates can cause or contribute to causation of a heart attack? Gas blowers produce huge amounts of fine particulates, but carcinogenic ones. Also, these screaming machines desiccate soil and kill our precious ecosystem from the ground up. I believe Satan himself normalized use of gas blowers. They obliterate tranquility with a frequency and rhythm straight from Hell itself. They produce smog which contributes to climate change. Never has one machine checked all the boxes for being so disagreeable and injurious. These diabolical contraptions are particularly hazardous for the workers, who seem to have no voice in all this. The poor workers will almost certainly have profound hearing loss and will be at a high risk of cancer and cardiovascular disease, etc. It is astonishing to me that gas blowers have not been banned at the state level. The true cost of gas blowers are medical bills for hearing aids, heart disease, respiratory disease, cancer; wage loss from disability; plus the incalculable, unquantifiable loss of soil and ecosystem health. Alternatives for the heavy-polluting landscape industry are the low-tech rake and broom; and electric blowers.

We must do whatever we can do to minimize noise and air pollution and protect workers' health. If that means providing incentives for the heavy-polluting, heavy-handed landscape industry, or making their transition to electric easier, so be it. I therefore support HB 2067.