TRAVIS NELSON STATE REPRESENTATIVE HOUSE DISTRICT 44 NORTH/NORTHEAST PORTLAND



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Support for House Bill 3647

Chair Sosa, Vice-Chair Chaichi, Vice-Chair Osborne, and Members of the House Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection,

My name is Travis Nelson, and I am the State Representative for House District 44. I'm here today to testify in support of HB 3647 because this bill takes a necessary step to protect Oregonians from deceptive gas pricing practices.

We've all been there, pulling into a gas station, scanning the signs, and making a quick decision based on the price. But what happens when that price isn't displayed?

Not long ago, on my way home from Salem, I pulled off at a gas station in Woodburn. The big sign where you would expect to see the price was blank. The attendant met me at the pump and offered to pump my gas. I started to say "regular fill" but then realized I had not seen the price. I got out and looked at the pump. I could not believe what I saw. The price was \$6.69 a gallon. It felt like a setup, designed to take advantage of drivers who had no idea what they were paying until it was too late. I was beyond sticker shocked, so much so, that I took photos as you can see on my slide here.

Currently, gas stations in Oregon are not required by law to display prices on signs visible from the street. This lack of transparency leaves drivers vulnerable to unfair pricing and predatory practices, like the one I encountered. Over the years, the Oregon Department of Justice has received complaints about this practice which is a clear signal that that Oregonians want change.

HB 3647 provides a clear and simple solution by requiring gas stations to also display their prices on a sign visible from the street in addition to being displayed at each pump. This ensures price transparency and helps prevent deceptive practices.

Drivers should be able to compare prices and make informed decisions before pulling in to refuel. Nearly every other product has clearly displayed prices, and gas should be no exception. Oregonians, just like me, trust gas stations to uphold a basic standard of transparency, but when some choose to break that trust, it becomes our responsibility to ensure fairness and accountability.

I urge your support for HB 3647 to bring fairness and transparency to gas pricing in Oregon.

Thank you,

Travis Nelson

State Representative Travis Nelson House District 44, North/NE Portland