



Hood River County Environmental Health

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Friday, March 28, 2025

Hello Co-Chairs, Co-Vice Chairs, and members of the Joint Committee on Transportation,

My name is Mike Matthews, Hood River County's Environmental Health Supervisor, Hood River County Watershed Representative, and 20-year Steering Committee member on the Tri-County Household Hazardous Waste & Recycling Program for Hood River, Wasco and Serman Counties.

I would like to express my enthusiastic support for HB 3209. Abandoned RVs pose a hazard of environmental contamination until they are properly disposed of. Every unit contains potentially hazardous materials such as:

- Fuel and propane tanks, used oil, and other petroleum-based products like chlorofluorocarbons.
- Batteries and appliances can contain heavy metals like copper, lead, cadmium, mercury and lithium
- Black and grey water tanks contain pathogens.

All these things can cause environmental contamination to the abandonment site and potentially surrounding ground and surface waters of the state. This bill will enable local jurisdictions to ensure proper disposal of these contaminants.

Thank you, Co-Chairs, Co-Vice Chairs, and members of the Joint Committee on Transportation for your time and urge you to vote in favor of HB 3209.

Signature: Mike Matthews - Date: 3/28/25
Mike Matthews, REHS
Hood River County Health Department
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