

Submitter: Rich Peppers

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3597

Chair Lively, Vice-Chairs Gamba and Levy, Members of the Committee -

My name is Rich Peppers, I live in Portland, and I'm a volunteer with Mobilizing Climate Action Together (MCAT), although I am submitting this testimony only on my own behalf.

I support the -1 Amendment for HB 3597 and encourage you to adopt them into the bill and pass it out of Committee with a "Do Pass" recommendation.

It is established that the transportation sector of the economy is the sector that emits the highest percentage of climate-changing greenhouse gases of the total, at about 35% to 38%, and these high rates of emissions have been difficult to bring down, despite it being the State's policy to do just that. Encouraging people who need to drive to "go electric" is just one of several strategies for bringing down climate pollution, and it's a particularly effective one.

The Charge Ahead rebate system that the Department of Environmental Quality administers provides an incentive for people who are going to buy a car - whether new or used - to consider the electric or hybrid-electric option. The -1 amendments for HB 3597 simply provide more flexibility within the system for the Department to react to funding availability and market demand, establish a fund for outreach efforts, and define the categories of "qualifying entities" that can contract with the Department to administer outreach efforts.

I support the adjustments the HB 3597 -1 Amendment makes to the Charge-Ahead System, and urge you to give it your support as well.

Thank you.