

Submitter:

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On Behalf Of:

Committee:

Joint Committee On Transportation

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

HB2945

Oregon should switch from diesel to electric battery school buses as soon as possible. The main reason is the health of the children. We know that diesel engine emissions cause both short-term and long-term lung issues for many people. The other reason is to reduce diesel pollution in general. That's good for the climate and for the population.

School buses are particularly appropriate for electrification because they generally have fixed and often fairly short routes, and return to the same lot regularly, where they can be recharged. The capital investment cost for the buses and electric charging infrastructure is high, but that cost is recouped in fuel savings over the life of the buses, as shown by a TriMet study a few years ago.

Summary: electric school buses are a good investment for Oregon.