

Submitter: Jean Lofy

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2945

There are so many reasons to support electric school buses—our children's health, the planet's health, job creation, and saving money.

Every day, more than 300,000 Oregon children ride school buses. Many of those buses run on diesel, a known carcinogen and a major contributor to asthma, bronchitis, and other respiratory issues.

Investing in zero-emission vehicles supports good-paying jobs in vehicle manufacturing, charging infrastructure deployment, and long-term maintenance. It also helps build smarter, more resilient energy systems.

This shift to electric buses will save school districts money. Over a bus's lifetime, electric buses cost significantly less to fuel and maintain than diesel buses, yielding taxpayer savings while also improving air quality for students.

I have had three electric cars, and they have been wonderful. They have little maintenance and much lower fuel costs, saving money.

I urge you to fund this new zero pollution program at \$20 million annually.