

Submitter:

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On Behalf Of:

Committee:

Joint Committee On Transportation

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

HB2945

I strongly support HB 2945, because it will accelerate Oregon's transition to zero-emission school buses.

Most school buses now run on diesel. It is very unhealthy, especially for children. In addition to being a known carcinogen, it contributes to asthma, bronchitis, and other respiratory conditions. Electric school buses are much safer.

In addition, this shift to electric buses will save school districts money. Electric buses cost significantly less to fuel and maintain, resulting in taxpayer savings. These savings are amplified when the state invests in technical assistance and planning capacity for school districts transitioning to electric fleets.

Critically, HB 2945 prioritizes at least 40% of funding for disproportionately impacted communities to ensure the health and climate benefits of zero-emission buses reach the families who need them most.

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