

Submitter:

Jim Scheppke

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

House Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

HB3971

Chair Bowman and Members of the Committee,

We in Salem are watching the development of the CleanLane Resource Recovery Facility as a model for Marion and Polk Counties. We look forward to a state of the art resource recovery facility just down the road that can demonstrate best practices in solid waste management.

I worked with 350 Salem OR and other groups to hasten the closure of the Reworld incinerator which was refusing to comply with SB 488 and Cleaner Air Oregon and which moss studies have now proven had rendered the community of Brooks a sacrifice zone for toxic emissions for 38 years. We succeeded in that effort and the incinerator is now closed. But in doing this we just traded one sacrifice zone for another in Benton County. That is why we are now working for the closure of the Coffin Butte landfill as soon as possible.

If we could reduce Salem's solid waste dramatically by using a facility modeled after CleanLane we could then take the remainder of our waste by rail to a more environmentally responsible landfill than Coffin Butte. That is why we urge your support of SB 3971 so the CleanLane project can get underway without further delay.

Thank you for your attention to this important issue.

Jim Scheppke, Salem