

Submitter: Andrew Simrin

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Emergency Management and Veterans

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4032

Dear Chair Tran, Vice-Chairs Lewis and Watanabe, and Members of the Committee,

I live in Eugene near the rail-yard, where fuels are stored. We recently had a derailment involving multiple cars this week, this is a real concern.

For the safety of families in Trainsong and Bethel, Eugene, Portland, and communities across Oregon, I strongly urge you to support HB 4032.

I support HB 4032, with the goal of ensuring that diverse geographical regions of Oregon have access to needed fuels in the event of a disaster that cuts regions off from the current reserves at the CEI hub. In addition to facilitating better emergency management, moving reserves out of the CEI hub will reduce fuel being wasted and polluting our water and air in a Cascadia event or other disaster.

I regret that this bill is missing the thoughtful attention to environmental justice and a Just

Transition to clean energy that last year's bill on this topic (2025, HB 2152) contained.

? I strongly encourage bringing back the consideration of community safety and environmental justice in selecting new or expanded disaster fuel storage sites.

? I think it's important to recognize the need for and reality of a declining reliance on fossil fuels as electric vehicles become the norm. Electric vehicles are more efficient, cost effective, easier to drive, and better for individual and public health. We further think

the bill would be strengthened by the recognition that all combustion fuels— whether fossil or “bio/renewable” — are flammable and dangerous to communities, and every gallon of fuel that is burned adds to health-harming pollution.

? According to the Department of Energy's Oregon Energy Strategy Modeling Presentation, the least-cost scenario for Oregon requires electrification, including electrification of trucking, with an overall reduction of all fuels.

Considering these points is relevant to long term reserves planning, workforce planning and minimizing hazards to communities near the disaster reserves.

Nonetheless, I recognize the need to pass this truncated bill during this year's session in order to diversify the location of disaster reserves. Emergency responders across the state need to be able to access needed fuel for an emergency response even if a disaster renders inoperable the CEI Hub which currently holds 90% of the state's fuel reserves.

Please pass HB4032.

Thank you.