



**Testimony on HB 3448
Senate Environment and Natural Resources Committee
Submitted by the Oregon Association of Broadcasters
April 22, 2013**

Thank you Chair Dingfelder and members of the committee for the opportunity to submit testimony.

The Oregon Association of Broadcasters (OAB) asks you to support HB 3448. This legislation is important to Oregon broadcasters, who serve the vital public interest role of communicating to their communities throughout the State of Oregon during emergency situations.

HB 3448 will ensure Oregon broadcasters can have reliable back up power to transmit and broadcast critical information across the state in the event of a power outage during a statewide, regional, or national emergency.

The vast majority of our broadcasters depend on diesel generators for this power back up. We are extremely concerned about operating our generators on bio-diesel that has been stored over a long period of time. We want to be prepared for that critical moment when our emergency generator is needed. It is important that it will start and maintain continuous service throughout the duration of the emergency.

OAB would like to thank Oregon Health and Sciences University for working with us on this very important issue.

This important exemption will increase our broadcasters' ability to participate in the statewide emergency broadcast system.

Sincerely,

Bill Johnstone
President & CEO
Oregon Association of Broadcasters