



February 2, 2015

Senate Environment & Natural Resources Committee

Re: Low Carbon Fuel Standard (SB 324)

Dear Chair Edwards & Members of the Committee,

The Tualatin Chamber of Commerce opposes the unconditional implementation of the Low Carbon Fuel Standard because it will negatively impact our members and our community. An unconditional implementation of the Standard will increase the cost of fuel, perhaps significantly. An increase in the cost of fuel raises the cost of doing business for everyone, depletes the disposable income of residents who shop at our local businesses, and means fewer travelers and other tourists in our hotels, restaurants, and shops. Moreover, the timing of this cost increase will rattle the still-fragile foundation of our local economic recovery, which has largely been built on the recent, significant decrease in the cost of non-LC fuel.

In addition to the concerns about the costs of the unconditional implementation of the Standard, the Tualatin Chamber of Commerce is also concerned about the quality of highways and roads in our community and region. Usually, gas tax money is dedicated to highway and road construction and maintenance. SB 324 will increase fuel costs with no money going to roads and highways. We are also very concerned that it will compromise road funding not only now, but well into the future as Oregonians become increasingly price sensitive and reject efforts for additional gas taxes.

The Tualatin Chamber of Commerce strongly urges you to oppose the unconditional implementation of the Low Carbon Fuel Standard while continuing to support funding of our critical transportation infrastructure.

Sincerely,

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