



January 26, 2015

Environment and Natural Resources Committee

Re: Low Carbon Fuel Standard (SB 324)

Dear Chair Edwards and Members of the Committee:

The Chehalem Valley Chamber of Commerce opposes SB 324.

SB 324 represents a gas tax. It will increase the cost of fuel significantly. This means less disposable income for our residents to spend at our local businesses. It also means fewer people in our hotels, restaurants, and shops as travel costs increase.

Our ability to attract tourists also depends on good and safe highways and roads. 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 gas taxes.

The Chehalem Valley Chamber of Commerce represents more than 400 businesses in Newberg, Dundee and St. Paul. We are Yamhill County's largest business organization.

We don't see any economic benefits to our businesses and community as a result of SB 324. The only possibility we see is that it will be yet another blow to our local economy.

Please let the Oregon Clean Fuels Program expire. Please oppose SB 324.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sheryl Kelsh".

Sheryl Kelsh
President/CEO
Chehalem Valley Chamber of Commerce

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