

From the desk of: Tobias Read



OREGON BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

200 SW Market Street, Suite L100 Portland, Oregon 97201
Ph: 503-641-0990 Fax: 503-641-0959 oba@oba-online.org www.oba-online.org

OREGON BUSINESS LEADERS SUPPORT SB 324

Transportation is the largest single contributor to Oregon's greenhouse gas emissions, accounting for 36% of total emissions. There are relatively few things Oregon can do as a medium-sized state to reduce global carbon output and Oregon has been aggressive on this front.

As leaders in Oregon's business community we have evaluated the Clean Fuels Program - beginning in 2009. We employ a member driven committee process and our Energy/Environment committee focused on the core economics of the Low Carbon Fuels Standards (LCFS). Our policy committee, along with the OBA Board of Directors, came to the conclusion that this is a reasonable step forward to take in reducing the carbon content of fuels by 10% over 10 years. A big factor in our discussions has been the decisions by California and British Columbia to enact a LCFS statute, providing a large consumer market on the west coast.

OBA's business leaders, ranging from Oregon's largest companies to small main street businesses, have evaluated the next phase in the clean fuels effort and have asked the authors of this bill to make several changes to the proposed legislation to improve the Clean Fuels Program. They are:

- Add provisions for cost containment in the legislation.
- Require the highest biodiesel quality standards in the nation to provide manufacturers and consumers certainty around the fuels they utilize and the warranties of their products.

We appreciate the legislature for adopting these changes and making the program stronger. Additionally, concerns that arose around availability of fuel supply were quelled by a study analyzing the potential fuel supply to the Pacific Coast region conducted by the International Council on Clean Transportation that showed there will be an available supply of low carbon fuels for the entire Pacific Coast region, from British Columbia to California.

OBA supports lifting the 2015 sunset on Oregon's Clean Fuels Program. We encourage a YES vote on SB 324.

