

March 27, 2017

## **SB 995**

Senate Environment and Natural Resources Committee

Dear Mr. Chair and Members of the Committee:

I am Lana Butterfield, the representative for the Pacific Propane Gas Association. We are opposed to SB 995. This bill requires an employer operating certain facilities to submit annual materials balance report on facility's input and output of hazardous materials to Department of Environmental Quality.

The Oregon State Fire Marshal (OSFM) tells us that retail propane dealers might be caught under the regulations of this bill. Propane dealers have been faithfully reporting already for decades under the Community Right to Know program administered by OSFM. We do not feel that our reporting the same kinds of information to the Department of Environmental Quality is necessary or a wise use of the state's limited resources.

### **PROPANE IS NOT THE PROBLEM**

- Propane is registered by the federal government as a clean fuel.
- Propane usually dissipates in the air when it is released as a gas.
- Propane does not pollute groundwater or the environment.

We encourage you to amend the bill so it does not include propane or other substances which are already being reported. PPGA is opposed to the bill as written.

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## Opposition to HB 2669 and SB 995

### HB 2669

<https://olis.leg.state.or.us/liz/2017R1/Downloads/MeasureDocument/HB2669/Introduced>

Modifies requirements for local community right to know regulatory programs for toxic substances and harmful substances.

### SB 995

<https://olis.leg.state.or.us/liz/2017R1/Downloads/MeasureDocument/SB995/Introduced>

Requires employer operating certain facility to submit annual materials balance report on facility's input and output of hazardous materials to Department of Environmental Quality.

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As a propane dealers who must comply with the **OSFM Community Right to Know program**, and on behalf of our propane industrial/agricultural customers with over 250-gallon tanks, we oppose SB 995 and HB 2669.

HB 2669 and SB 995 would create duplicative programs that are unnecessary for propane and overbroad. They are a consequence of the situations created by Bullseye Glass, Precision Castparts and other such manufacturers:

[http://www.oregonlive.com/environment/index.ssf/2016/02/bullseye\\_uroboros\\_chromium\\_he.html](http://www.oregonlive.com/environment/index.ssf/2016/02/bullseye_uroboros_chromium_he.html).

## Too Broad

The bills pull in many chemicals that have been faithfully reported for decades under the Community Right to Know program run by the State Fire Marshal's Office.

## PROPANE IS NOT THE PROBLEM

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- Propane usually dissipates in the air when it is released as a gas.
- Propane does not pollute groundwater or the environment.
- Propane is not a "biopersistent substance" as defined in HB 2669, yet it would be included in the higher fees and increased reporting burden.

**HB 2669 should focus on biopersistent substances rather than pulling in other reporters.**

**SB 269 creates a new program with DEQ which is duplicative and conflicts with OSFM's current Community Right to Know program.**

## Unnecessary

Local communities can create their own community right to know programs now if they like, constructing them to their own specifications. Under HB 2669, every local program would have to use the same template.

The Pacific Propane Gas Association opposes both bills and **asks for a NO vote!**

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