

**Regional Board  
Members**

Jeff Bertalotto

April 4, 2017

Virginia Hall

Ted Zurcher

***Fighting for Air***

Chair Helm and members of the House Committee on Energy and Environment,

On behalf of the American Lung Association in Oregon, I am writing to express our opposition to HB 2481. We believe that this proposal intends to undermine ongoing and successful implementation of a vital public health protection law by presenting misleading and incomplete information to the public.

HB 2481 would require gas station receipts to display information about the Clean Fuel Standard while ignoring the public health and environmental damages caused by petroleum products. The American Lung Association strongly supported the adoption and ongoing implementation of the Clean Fuels Standard to drive down the substantial public health harms caused by burning petroleum products by promoting cleaner fuel choices.

Our 2016 "*Clean Air Future*" report showed that the cost of pollution from the passenger vehicle fleet in Oregon amounts to over \$1 billion per year in terms of health and climate change impacts, or about \$18.42 per fill up.<sup>1</sup> It is important to note that the estimated \$1.3 billion in annual health costs does not include the costs of environmental damages caused by carcinogenic toxic air contaminants<sup>2</sup>, damages from fuel spills, or the costs of petroleum dependence. The costs of fossil fuel pollution are borne by all Oregonians, but our children, seniors and other residents living with asthma, COPD, lung cancer and other respiratory and cardiac conditions face increased risks, as

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<sup>1</sup> American Lung Association. "Clean Air Future" Oct. 2016. <http://www.lung.org/local-content/california/documents/2016zeroemissions.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> American Cancer Society. "Benzene and Cancer Risk". Jan. 2016. "Benzene is known to cause cancer, based on evidence from studies in both people and lab animals. The link between benzene and cancer has largely focused on leukemia and other cancers of blood cells." <https://www.cancer.org/cancer/cancer-causes/benzene.html>

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*Please remember the American Lung Association in your will and trust.*

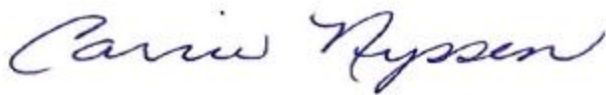
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do communities facing higher burdens and exposures to local traffic pollution sources.<sup>3</sup>

Oregonians should be educated about the clean air and public health benefits of the clean fuel standard; this bill seeks to undermine the rule by painting an incomplete, misleading picture of this health-protective measure.

Oregonians need factual and real information about the health impacts of our fuels choices. We urge you to vote no on HB 2481.

Sincerely,



Carrie Nyssen  
Vice President, Advocacy and Air Quality  
American Lung Association in Oregon

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<sup>3</sup> American Lung Association. "State of the Air" Apr. 2016. Research citations on near-roadway exposure impacts on pediatric asthma, diabetes, heart attacks, impaired lung function and increased risk premature death.  
<http://www.lung.org/our-initiatives/healthy-air/outdoor/air-pollution/highways.html>

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