



February 8, 2017

Representative Ken Helm  
Chair, House Committee on Energy and Environment  
Oregon State Legislature  
900 Court St. NE, H-285  
Salem, Oregon 97301

Re: House Bills 2510, 2511, 2514, and 2704

Dear Chair Helm, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Merlyn Hough, and I am speaking today as Director of the Lane Regional Air Protection Agency (LRAPA) in Lane County, Oregon. I am here today in support of HB 2510, HB 2511, HB 2514, and HB 2704, which reduce barriers and help promote more widespread use of electric zero-emission vehicles throughout Oregon.

**LRAPA supports HB 2510, HB 2511, HB 2514, and HB 2704.**

Transportation emissions are a significant contributor to several air quality problems we are currently addressing:

- Precursor emissions of hydrocarbons and oxides of nitrogen that contribute to summertime ozone pollution;
- Hazardous air pollutants (especially benzene, naphthalene and diesel particulate matter) that are significant contributors to overall health risk from air toxics in Lane County and other parts of Oregon); and
- Greenhouse gas emissions (especially carbon dioxide) that are of concern as contributors to climate change.

LRAPA is responsible for air quality protection in Lane County, similar to the responsibilities of the Department of Environmental Quality in the other 35 counties of Oregon. LRAPA is committed to doing its part to implement the Multi-State Zero-Emission-Vehicle Action Plan<sup>1</sup> of which Oregon is one of the signatories. For example, LRAPA has invested in an all-electric vehicle as one of its small 7-vehicle fleet, provided

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<sup>1</sup> [https://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/HWY/OIPP/docs/Multi-State\\_ZEV\\_ActionPlan.pdf](https://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/HWY/OIPP/docs/Multi-State_ZEV_ActionPlan.pdf)

workplace charging at our front door for those doing business with us, and sponsored local National Drive Electric Week events the past three years in Eugene-Springfield with our partners. The four electric-vehicle-related bills under consideration today would help advance several of the 11 priority actions identified in the Multi-State ZEV Action Plan.

Electric vehicles will significantly reduce ozone precursors, air toxics and greenhouse gases in Oregon as they replace an increasing percentage of Oregon vehicles. The four introduced bills will help speed up this replacement process.

LRAPA supports the more detailed arguments prepared by Drive Oregon for HB 2704. LRAPA agrees that HB 2704 is especially important for accelerating transportation electrification in Lane County and throughout Oregon.

Thank you for this opportunity to meet with you. I would be happy to answer any questions related to our testimony or our work at LRAPA.

Sincerely,



Merlyn L. Hough, Director  
Lane Regional Air Protection Agency

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