



TECHNET
THE VOICE OF THE
INNOVATION ECONOMY

April 2, 2019

The Honorable Ken Helm
Chair, House Committee on Energy and Environment
Oregon House of Representatives

Re: HB 3141 – Electric Vehicle Charging Stations

Chair Helm and Members of the Committee on Energy and Environment:

TechNet is the national network of over eighty technology companies that promotes the growth of the innovation economy through bipartisan advocacy at the federal and state level in all fifty states.

TechNet's diverse membership includes dynamic American businesses ranging from small startups to the most prominent global companies and represents more than three million employees in the fields of information technology, e-commerce, clean energy, gig and sharing economy, venture capital, and finance.

TechNet supports HB 3141 (Wilde), which will help expand access to electric vehicle (EV) charging stations in Oregon by requiring that at least 20% of parking spaces support future installation of electric vehicles charging stations at newly constructed public buildings including retail, restaurants, hotels, schools, or other buildings open to the public during normal business hours and multi-family residential buildings. Additionally the legislation will require that public charging stations provide a payment method that is widely available and accessible to members of the public without limitations or restrictions and also prohibits conditioning use of charging stations on obtaining a membership, subscribing to a service or otherwise entering into an agreement that creates preferential or exclusive use of the charging station by one individual over another.

This legislation is important because by making charging stations more readily available in public building and multifamily housing, encouraging a competitive market, and making payment options easy for the public to use, this bill will support and encourage more electric vehicle adoption by the citizens of Oregon and also supports our larger climate goals. Additionally, by amending building costs to support adoption at time of construction will greatly cut down on costs. Installing EV charging stations in at time of construction can be 85% less expensive than in retrofit scenarios.

TechNet also believes legislation should be technology neutral while also providing for consumer choice. Therefore we are supportive of the provisions that prohibit preferential or exclusive use of charging stations, thus providing consumers the ability to choose the best options to suit their needs. We are also supportive of the requirement of widely available and future-proofed payment methods that will allow charging stations to be more accessible, secure, and reliable for EV drivers.

Lastly, TechNet believes it is important to lead by example and supports the requirements on the state to purchase 25% of new light duty (<8,000 lbs) vehicles to be ZEV by 2025 and to study zero emission bus regulations. Additionally, the Clean Fuels Program (Oregon's LCFS) creates a fund that flow to utilities to be used to support transportation electrification, including supporting electrification in rural and low-income communities. We recommend the state go a step further and consider directing a portion of these funds to light duty rebates, as is happening in California.

Thank you in advance for your consideration on this matter. TechNet looks forward to continuing to engage on this issue. Please do not hesitate to reach out if I may be able to provide you with additional information.

Sincerely,

/s/

Christina Fisher
Executive Director
TechNet
cfisher@technet.org
508-397-4358