From: <u>Jerry Deckelbaum</u>
To: <u>HEE Exhibits</u>

 Subject:
 RE: HB 3350 Hearing 6/18/19

 Date:
 Tuesday, June 4, 2019 3:47:40 PM

Please give the matter of banning gas-power leaf blowers your serious attention. In addition to the substantial body of evidence concerning their harmful effects upon the environment, the workers who use them, and the public, please consider the following issues that may be less apparent:

- 1) Much ill-will is created amongst those who hire landscapers that inflict gas blowers upon their neighbors. It is often the case that those hiring these landscapers vacate their own premises so as not to endure the noise, or they schedule landscapers to come when they are at work. Those who work from home must endure the resulting noise.
- 2) Landscapers commonly use multiple gas blowers simultaneously, and in combination with other noisy gas powered equipment. Nothing prevents multiple homeowners with respective crews from operating simultaneously. This becomes an extreme around-the-clock problem. The noise created by one gas-powered blower infiltrates 90 surrounding homes.
- 3) Landscaping crews routinely blow leaves, grass clippings, herbicides, pesticides, fungal spores and fecal matter onto the city streets and sidewalks. Manufacturers suggest the use of breathing, ear and eye protection for those operating gas blowers, or for pedestrians within 50 feet of proximity. Pedestrians are forced to have routine toxic encounters without the benefit of such protections.

Respectfully, -Jerry Deckelbaum, JD, LCSW

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