

May 10, 2021

House Committee on Revenue

RE: PPGA Comments on Dash-Two Amendment to HB 3160

Dear Chair Nathanson and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide some feedback on HB 3160 and specifically the dash-two amendment.

The Pacific Propane Gas Association (PPGA) is the state trade association representing Oregon's propane industry. Our membership includes small multi-generational family businesses and large corporations engaged in the retail marketing of propane gas to Oregonians. PPGA members provide propane to the residential, commercial, agricultural, transportation and industrial markets throughout Oregon.

PPGA fully support the state's efforts to promote forest health and protect communities from wildfire. However, the dash-two amendment to HB 3160 greatly increases what was a \$10 surcharge to up to \$50 for most commercial businesses, as well as increased surcharges to other types of insurance policyholders.

That is a significant increase, and we are opposed. In today's economy, businesses and families are already struggling. PPGA asks the committee not to compound the problem through this bill.

The Oregon Wildfire Preparedness and Community Protection Fund should be paid for like other programs that provide societal benefits to the entire state, through the state general fund.

Thank you for allowing us to share our feedback on HB 3160.

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