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February 8, 2023

To: The House Committee on Climate, Energy, and Environment
From: Anthony K. Smith, National Federation of Independent Business
Re: NFIB Written Testimony in Support of HB 3022

Chair Marsh, Vice-Chairs Levy & Levy, and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of the thousands of Oregon small business members of the National Federation of Independent Business, many being the smallest of small businesses, I would like to express our support for HB 3022, which would prohibit the Oregon Environmental Quality Commission (EQC) or the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) from adopting or enforcing rules or standards related to motor vehicle fuels or emissions unless the EQC and DEQ were authorized by the Legislature.

In a recent survey of NFIB members in Oregon, 93.55% of respondents opposed the EQC adoption California's Advanced Clean Cars II rule.

The federal Clean Air Act authorizes the state of California to set vehicle emissions standards that exceed federal requirements. The standards are set and governed by the California Air Resources Board (CARB). States follow federal emissions standards by default or may adopt California's standards. Approximately seventeen states have adopted California's Low Emissions Vehicle (LEV) and Zero Emissions Vehicle (ZEV) standards for light and medium duty vehicles. In August 2022, CARB voted to ban the sales of all internal combustion vehicles by 2035. In December 2022, the EQC followed suit.

NFIB members are concerned that implementing California's vehicle emissions standards will increase the sticker price of light and medium duty vehicles. The rule will force auto dealers to accept electric vehicles for delivery from manufacturers regardless of market demand. Moreover, small businesses are worried that becoming dependent on electricity for all vehicles, as well as household, commercial and industrial needs, will require enormous utility infrastructure investments and leaves us extremely vulnerable during electric power failures.

On issues of this magnitude with the potential to impact the lives and livelihoods of nearly every small business owner in the state, not to mention Oregonians in general, the ninety elected members of the Oregon Legislature should have the final say, not an unelected board, commission, or agency in Salem or Sacramento.

NFIB respectfully asks you to vote YES on HB 3022.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Anthony K. Smith". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent initial "A" and a stylized "S".

Anthony K. Smith
NFIB Oregon State Director