

Submitter: Wade Flegel

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment

Measure: HB3158

Chair. Marsh,

My family farms in Crook County and we are in a record drought. We can not produce the same amount of wheat, hay, carrot seed or cattle that we did just 3 years ago. Our expenses are at all time highs while we only had 1/4 of the water we normally have to grow crops last season.

Our Governor just declared Crook and Jefferson counties emergency drought counties. We are trying to survive. Much of our equipment is older diesels, but they run very few hours a year. With the reduced income and high expenses we can not afford to update equipment. As we can we do update to newer equipment that have particulate filters, so that they are running very clean.

If you pass this bill you are increasing our expenses to a point that we may not be able to continue to farm.

Our sons who have come back to farm after college are getting discouraged with our beautiful Oregon as regulation and taxes reduce their future to farm. Our family has been farming in Oregon since the late 1800's and we do not want to leave or quit farming, but if you pass this bill you may be putting another nail in the coffin.

I ask you to oppose this bill!!

Thank you, Wade Flegel