

House Committee on Emergency Management, General Government, and Veterans  
Oregon State Legislature

Submitter: Barry O'Mahony

Dear Committee:

I am writing in support of House Bill 2426. In half of Oregon's counties, customers have the option of dispensing their own fuel, or choosing to wait and have someone do it for them. There's no logical reason why this can't be extended to the rest of Oregon. If I'm travelling and stop at towns just a short distance away such as Madras (Jefferson County) or Prineville (Crook County), I have the choice of pumping gas myself, or taking the extra time to wait to have someone do it for me. No one forces me to pump it myself; an attendant is available, usually helping another customer. There are still attendant jobs in those communities. I see no reason why that isn't permitted in Deschutes County as well.

In the past some have commented that in other States, customers who desire attended service have difficulty finding it, or have to pay higher prices. But the laws as they exist in those States are completely different from what is contained in HB 2426. A better example is the current half of Oregon's counties where self-service is an option. I've never heard any reports of people having more difficulty finding full service since self-serve became an option in those counties.

At the very least, Deschutes, Klamath and Umatilla Counties should be permitted to join its fellow counties East of the Cascades and allow both self- and full-serve, if for some reason this is felt intolerable in the Willamette Valley.