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March 2, 2023

My name is Erin Hansell-Heideman and I am a wheat producer in Morrow & Gilliam Counties. I strongly oppose SB803.

I am writing to express my concerns about SB803 and its potential impact on the agricultural industry in Oregon. As a farmer, I strongly believe that this bill would be a detriment to our industry and would have serious negative consequences for our state.

One of the main issues with SB803 is that it assumes Oregon has the renewable fuel infrastructure necessary for a fuel transition of this magnitude. However, the reality is that we do not currently have the infrastructure in place to support such a transition. This means that if this bill were to pass, farmers like me would be left without a reliable source of fuel to power the equipment and machinery needed to run our farms.

Furthermore, the bill does not address how to phase out petroleum fuel in any way. It simply mandates a switch to renewable fuel sources without providing any guidance on how this can be achieved. This lack of planning and foresight is concerning, especially for an industry as vital as agriculture.

As a farmer, I am deeply concerned about the operational needs of my farm, which provides food for the global nation. Without a reliable source of fuel, I would not be able to maintain the productivity and efficiency necessary to meet the demands of our customers. This could have a ripple effect on the entire agricultural industry, and ultimately, on Oregon's economy.

In conclusion, I urge you to reconsider SB803 and its potential impact on the agricultural industry in Oregon. The bill is premature and does not take into account the reality of the current state of renewable fuel infrastructure in our state. As a farmer, I cannot support a bill that would put the viability of our industry at risk.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Erin Hansell-Heideman