

To: Senate Committee on Energy and Environment

Date: March 9, 2023

RE: Support for SB 803

Dear Committee Members,

It may seem strange for a child and family serving organization to support a bill on energy conservation and environmental protection, but you cannot have healthy and thriving children, youth and families if they live in polluted and climate-threatened communities. SB 803 is just one solution to helping make Oregon a healthier, safer and better place to grow up, learn, work, play, raise a family and benefit from all that our villages, towns, cities and natural environment has to offer.

To deliver this promise to your constituents, the legislature must take concrete steps to address climate change before it is too late. SB 803 would gradually phase out fossil diesel in Oregon while still allowing for renewable fuels to power our economy.

You have also been lied to by industry lobbyists. SB 803 will not ban all diesel in the state. It will not destroy our economy nor will it put rural Oregon out of business. In fact, an increasing number of forward-thinking business support this legislation as it will help rural economies diversify and grow. These are businesses who are both creating the economy of the future today AND doing their part to ensure the health and wellbeing of our children, families and communities TODAY.

We have nearly three years to ensure a smooth transition from obsolete fossil diesel to fuels that can serve as a bridge to zero-emission transportation. With your political courage, we can get there.

Parrott Creek is based in Clackamas County. However, with our main youth residential care facility located in rural Clackamas, we serve children and families from all four corners of the state who are referred to our programs. We are a statewide asset and believe in statewide solutions to improving the lives of all citizens based on healthy solutions that deliver a healthy economy and healthy communities.

Please pass SB 803.

Sincerely,



Simon Fulford
Executive Director