

Submitter: Lillian Malek
On Behalf Of: Chinook Investment Company
Committee: Senate Committee On Energy and Environment
Measure: HB3273
RE: HB 3273 Public Hearing

We are the owners of a building that has been a cleanup site with the DEQ dry cleaner program. We have been diligently working with the DEQ since 1998. Without the funding and resources provided by this program, remediation would not have been possible.

We wholeheartedly support the prohibition of perchloroethylene and n-propyl bromide as dry-cleaning solvents. At the same time, we oppose the sunseting of the DEQ drycleaner program.

Until PERC use has stopped in Oregon and all contamination has been identified and remedied, the DEQ dry cleaner program is essential to protecting our community from hazardous waste. The difficulty and expense of remediation has been noted by the DEQ in its publications on the matter, and it is precisely for that reason that the DEQ should continue to honor its commitment to clean up contaminated dry-cleaning sites. Leaving remediation up to property owners to handle will surely result in inadequate remediation, if only because of the resources it requires to get these chemicals out of the soil and water.

Clearly, funding cleanup through fees on perc-using dry-cleaners isn't enough. So, let's find other ways of funding this vital program.

Please end the use of perc, but don't wash your hands of the problem. Our community's health depends on the DEQ seeing the job through.

Respectfully submitted,
Lillian Malek