

Submitter: Ramonda Thompson
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3119

To the House Committee on Climate, Energy and Environment:

In regards to HB 3119, I am writing to support the passage of this bill. It would Prohibit the DEQ from implementing or enforcing ACT regulations before January 1, 2027.

At this time, neither Oregon, nor the rest of the nation, have enough charging stations for the adoption of zero-emission vehicles. There is only one public charging station in Oregon, and it's estimated that there are only 14 in the entire United States. The required infrastructure is severely limited.

This bill would give more time for Oregon farmers and ranchers to consider economic, infrastructural, technological, and regulatory factors that would be an effect of ACT regulations. Agricultural businesses depend on heavy-duty pickups, which are already a high-expense budget item. With the additional time allowed, farmers and ranchers can look for more reasonably priced, but yet powerful enough, transportation vehicles.

And I must state, there needs to be more research considered on the repercussions to Oregon's economy. How much more will it cost to transport goods and conduct services, how much more are consumers willing to pay for food and goods, when zero-emission vehicles are required? How many businesses will go out of business due to the increased expenses? Just between our ranch in Diamond and the cities of Bend or Ontario, there would have to be two (2) charging stations, one on Hwy 20 to the west, and another on Hwy 20 to the east.

The additional time allowed in this bill would enable more consistent and accurate information to be developed on the ACT regulations.