

Submitter: Jim Scheppke
On Behalf Of: 350 Salem OR
Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and
Environment
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2067

Dear Chair Lively and Members of the Committee:

350 Salem OR strongly supports HB 2067. For anyone who cares about the Climate Crisis HB 2067 is a no-brainer as gas-powered leaf blowers are hundreds of times more polluting with GHG emissions than automobiles. Gas powered leaf blowers also pose serious health risks to the mostly low-paid workers who have to use them, sometimes for much of the day.

We like the approach of providing a carrot and not a stick to commercial landscape contractors, many of which are small minority-owned businesses that otherwise could not afford to replace their gas-powered leaf blowers with electric leaf blowers. Because electric leaf blowers are now as capable for commercial use as gas-powered leaf blowers, and because their cost is coming down to be more comparable, now is the time to incentivize the switch. Hopefully in a few years this rebate program will no longer be needed.

We urge your support of HB 2067

Jim Scheppke on behalf of 350 Salem OR
Salem