



CITY OF
PORTLAND, OREGON

Charlie Hales, Mayor
Amanda Fritz, Commissioner
Nick Fish, Commissioner
Dan Saltzman, Commissioner
Steve Novick, Commissioner

February 4, 2015

Chris Edwards, Chair
Senate Committee
900 Court St, NE, Hearing Room C
Salem, OR 97301

Re: Support for SB 324

Dear Chair Edwards and Members of the Committee:

We write in support of SB 324 as part of the City of Portland's commitment to promoting a prosperous, low-carbon economy. A clean environment is crucial to a healthy and resilient community. Increased carbon dioxide is a well-known contributor to global warming. As leaders and public stewards, it is critically important that we do all that we can to tackle this difficult problem. Reducing carbon emissions from transportation fuels will help increase resiliency, improve local air quality, and help our businesses develop low-carbon solutions that are in growing demand globally.

The City of Portland has been working to reduce its carbon footprint for more than 20 years and we have achieved encouraging results. As of 2013, local carbon emissions were 14 percent below 1990 levels, despite adding more than 170,000 residents. Portland's current Climate Action Plan is designed to put Portland and Multnomah County on a path to reduce carbon emissions 40 percent by 2030 and 80 percent by 2050 (compared to 1990 levels). Portland is committed to addressing climate change through its own operations, infrastructure, and citywide policy, and we urge the State to take action in the arenas for which it is responsible.

Full implementation of the Clean Fuels Program at the Department of Environmental Quality is an important component of reaching reduction goals for Oregon and for Portland. Approximately one-third of Oregon's greenhouse gases come from transportation sources. Expanded utilization of cleaner fuels through SB 324 will help reduce these emissions while providing valuable air quality and economic benefits.

We urge the passage of SB 324 and the full implementation of the Clean Fuels Program.

Sincerely,

Charlie Hales
Mayor

Dan Saltzman
Commissioner

Amanda Fritz
Commissioner

Steve Novick
Commissioner

Nick Fish
Commissioner