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Oregon State Chamber of Commerce

February 25, 2014

House Energy & Environment Committee

RE: SB 324-A

Dear Chair Vega Pederson & Members of the Committee:

The Oregon State Chamber of Commerce represents 66 local Chambers of Commerce throughout Oregon and our 24,000 business members.

**The OSCC is opposed to SB 324.** We don't see any way in which SB 324 does not increase the cost of transportation fuel in Oregon significantly.

Our local communities depend on healthy businesses, disposable income for our residents, robust tourism, and a safe and reliable transportation infrastructure.

We oppose SB 324 because it means less disposable income for our residents to spend in our businesses. It means higher costs for our businesses. It means fewer people visiting our communities and spending money in our local shops, restaurants and hotels.

We are also concerned because the increased fuel costs will siphon income away from our communities, and none of the revenue raised will support any local transportation projects.

In short, we believe the costs associated with SB 324 far outweigh the benefits. We don't see any economic benefits to our communities as a result of SB 324. We respectfully ask that you vote 'no' the legislation.

Sincerely,

Brenda Turner  
OSCC Executive Director

Debbie Pedro  
CEO Hermiston Chamber of Commerce  
OSCC President

J.L. Wilson  
OSCC Government Affairs