

# Sierra Club

My name is Jesse Piedfort. That's spelled J-E-S-S-E P-I-E-D-F-O-R-T, and I'm the director of Sierra Clubs, Washington State Chapter. Sierra Club is a nationwide grassroots environmental advocacy organization, with more than 20,000 members here in the state of Washington. These are people across the state that care deeply about slowing climate change and fighting for things like clean air and environmental justice. We feel like these objectives as well as our state's statutory greenhouse gas emissions limits can't be achieved without a speedy and equitable transition to a cleaner transportation system, primarily powered by clean electricity. That's why I'm here today to voice our strong support for the proposed rules. As others have mentioned, transportation accounts for about 45% of our state's greenhouse gas emissions. The climate impacts of shifting from fossil fuels to Washington's increasingly clean electricity are really significant, and, according to Washington's '21 state energy strategy, also represent the most cost-effective path to meet our greenhouse gas limits for passenger vehicles. Our summer and fall wildfires also give us a reminder of the health impacts of air pollution, which cause serious public health outcomes that fall disproportionately on frontline communities. These rules will make a huge difference in air quality. Shifting away from tailpipe pollution in trucks and passenger cars will save lives. They result in cleaner air, particularly for people who live by highways and ports, and freight hubs. One report found that together with the Advanced Clean Trucks rule, the heavy-duty omnibus rule result in hundreds of avoided premature deaths and hospitalization statewide. Additionally, many of our Sierra Club members here in Washington are also consumers and prospective buyers of passenger EVs, and they appreciate that Electric Vehicles are cheaper for them to own and maintain. That shifting away from fossil fuels in our transportation sector will make us less beholden to things like oil company profits or global fluctuations in the price of gas. We need to do everything we can to speed up this transition, and these proposed regulations are a really important and meaningful step. Thank you for your consideration and for all your hard work in developing this strong proposed rule. Thanks.