

PUBLIC COMMENTS

HB 4120

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON STATE AFFAIRS

Hearing Date: April 20, 2021 8:00 AM

Sarah Bagwell Rudy

Texas Natural Gas Vehicle Alliance

Austin, TX

Texas Natural Gas Vehicle Alliance is opposed to HB 4120 as filed. Specifically, the Alliance is opposed to the mandate that 75% of the Clean School Bus Program funds be used for electric buses and asks that this portion of the bill be removed. We believe electric vehicles should be part of the solution, alongside natural gas, propane, and clean diesel, but not the only solution. Electric vehicles have a cost per ton of NOx reduced which is more than twice that of natural gas vehicles. This mandate will result in fewer emissions reduced overall.

William Van Hoy, Executive Director

Texas Propane Gas Association

Austin, TX

Texas Propane Gas Association

No on HB4120

William Van Hoy Executive Director

Representing

HB4120 IS ABOUT CHOICE; LET THE SCHOOL DISTRICTS DECIDE

“Picking winners and losers is not the way Texas way”

“Smart School Districts in Texas utilize Advanced Liquified Petroleum Gas “Propane, Autogas,” to power the school buses that carry thousands of students to school every day.”

“Propane is the cleanest, most economical energy source for the job.
School district can purchase 3 Autogas buses for the price of 1 Electric Bus.

HB 4120 amends the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality’s Clean School Bus Program, mandating that 75% of the program funds for electric buses, Propane’s ultra-low carbon intensity is why it is an approved clean alternative fuel under the U.S. Clean Air Act and the #1 choice for school districts in Texas.

School buses using Propane reduce particulate matter to virtually zero. Ultra-Low NOx Propane school bus is 90% Far cleaner than EPA Standards

In Texas, there are over 3,000 propane-powered school buses operated by over 70 plus school districts. Texas school districts need funding to continue upgrading and replacing their older school buses. The TCEQ TERP Clean School Bus Program is the only statewide grant option for these school districts.

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The Texas Propane Gas Association supports Competitive equilibrium.

Charlie Gagen, Advocacy Director - TX

American Lung Association

AUSTIN, TX

The American Lung Association encourages the transition to electric transportation and supports House Bill 4120.

The transportation sector is leading contributor to both air pollution and climate change. By transitioning our transportation and energy sector towards electric vehicles, we can greatly reduce the costly health impacts of pollution.

Poor air quality caused by transportation pollution contributes to a wide range of negative health impacts, which can exacerbate asthma attacks, lung cancer, strokes and other serious medical conditions. A shift to electric vehicles increasingly powered by clean, non-combustion renewable energy would improve our air, saving lives and improving lung health.

A 2020 “Road to Clean Air” report by the Lung Association found that all residents of each state stand to benefit from a transition to zero-emission cars, buses and trucks. This transition will benefit everyone, especially children riding school buses. This is also an equity issue, as low-income communities and communities of color often face greater exposure to transportation pollution.

Thank you for your consideration of House Bill 4120 which will help more Texans breathe clean air.

Susan Shifflett, President

Texas NGV Alliance

Houston, TX

On behalf of the Texas NGV Alliance, we are against HB 4120. We believe the Texas Clean Fleet Program should include ALL alternative fuels without designating a specific amount to just one fuel.

According to TCEQ’s report on the Texas Clean Fleet Program, the cost per ton for electric vehicles is over \$191k while other alternative fuels like natural gas are much less (\$85k). If this bill passes, the State will be paying more money towards reducing less emissions by placing fewer “more expensive” vehicles on the road.

This Competitive Program is designed to fund the lowest cost per ton of emissions reduced. Electric vehicles can receive funding as long as their cost per ton is among the lowest.

There is a place for all alternative fuels. Let the free market drive it not the State choosing one fuel over another. Let’s not California our Texas.

TCEQ report can be found here: <https://www.tceq.texas.gov/assets/public/implementation/air/terp/leg/Projects-by-Fuel-Type-TCFP.pdf>