

Testimony to the Environment and Energy Committee  
Re: House Bill 2336

February 26, 2013

The air we breathe speaks to the very heart of the quality of the lives we lead. My family is very fortunate to live in a lovely Portland neighborhood, a place with neatly planted gardens and bird feeders hanging from low branches.

There were a number of factors that brought us to Oregon three years ago, not the least of which was its national reputation for environmental stewardship. We wanted to be in a place where children would grow healthy and strong, supported physically and spiritually by the spectacular beauty and resources of the Northwest.

Little did we suspect that our new home just above the Willamette River would be served by schools that rank among the most polluted in the nation. In addition, the air frequently smells of gas and chemicals as I run through the neighborhood. It is a ready reminder that Oregon legislation and the DEQ have not responded to the technological improvements in air filtering with up-to-date environmental standards.

Please bring Oregon back to the forefront of respect for the environment. This legislation is a valuable step in improving the quality of air in Oregon and I urge you to support it.

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