



OREGON CHAPTER SIERRA CLUB

1821 SE ANKENY ST • PORTLAND, OR 97214

PHONE (503) 238-0442 • FAX (503) 238-6281

OREGON.CHAPTER@SIERRACLUB.ORG

WWW.OREGON.SIERRACLUB.ORG

To: Members of the Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources

From: Rhett Lawrence, Oregon Chapter Sierra Club

Date: March 8, 2017

RE: Senate Bill 1008

Chair Dembrow and Members of the Committee: On behalf of the more than 20,000 members and supporters of the Sierra Club in Oregon, I am pleased to offer some written testimony on Senate Bill 1008. Thank you for considering my comments.

As an organization with a long history of working on air quality and environmental health, the Sierra Club is strongly supportive of SB 1008. Diesel pollution is a major problem in Oregon and SB 1008 is an effective way to reduce dangerous diesel exhaust in our state. We believe that Oregon should take significant actions right now to address diesel pollution and make sure that our state doesn't become a dumping ground for dirty diesel engines.

In addition, as you know, SB 1008 will open the door to \$68 million in funds from the Volkswagen settlement, which could help us to accelerate old engine retirement in communities that need it most. It is critical that we not let this opportunity pass us by and leave that money sitting on the table when we desperately need it here in Oregon.

Senate Bill 1008 will take a vital step toward protecting the citizens of our state and cleaning up our air, and the Sierra Club strongly supports this legislation. We urge members of this Committee to give it your support as well and pass it out of committee with a "Do Pass" recommendation.

Thank you very much for considering my comments and please let me know if I can be of further assistance to the Committee.