

Oregon House of Representatives
Committee on Energy and The Environment

March 27, 2017

Chair Helm and Members of the Committee,

My name is Jessica Applegate and I live in Portland and run a family business in rural Douglas County. I'm a member of the Eastside Portland Air Coalition and also an advisory committee member for Cleaner Air Oregon. I support HB 2269 and encourage you to do the same.

I'm here today to remind you that we are in a state of emergency with regard to air toxics. Governor Brown created Cleaner Air Oregon, the air toxics regulatory overhaul in response. It is imperative that this bill be passed so that we can implement and enforce the rules we are creating in Cleaner Air Oregon. These rules will protect public health and be clear guidelines for Industry, both of which are needed. It will also put the burden of the modest fee increase on Industry and not the public.

Without the air monitors at Bullseye Glass we would have never known children at a daycare were being poisoned with lead from a manufacturing process. We would have never known about the beyond health benchmark levels of hexavalent chromium, cadmium, etc., spewing from stacks, that our community breathed for decades. The public is tired of Industry using our lungs as a filter.

I will never be able to prove that my family's health problems stem directly from living and going to school in this airshed, but we can prove what Industry is pumping into the air. This bill will help keep that burden of proof clear and fund our agency so they can do their job.

I believe that DEQ and our state agencies given the proper resources, new rules, and oversight, want to protect the public and environment. Please support this bill and consider the thousands of citizens from our our larger coalition of 22 groups as supporting this as well.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify today. I'm happy to answer any questions.

Sincerely,

Jessica Applegate, Organizer, Eastside Portland Air Coalition
Cleaner Air Oregon Advisory Member for Community Level Representation

Clean Air Partners:

Beyond Toxics
Brooklyn Neighborhood Assoc.
Citizens of Rockaway Beach
Clean Corvallis Air
Cleaner Air Grants Pass
Concerned Citizens for Clean Air
Creston-Kenilworth Neighborhood Assoc.
Cully Air Action Team
East Columbia Neighborhood Assoc.
Eastside Portland Air Coalition
PDX North Harbor Neighbors
Hillsboro Air & Water
Linnton Neighborhood
NE Coalition of Neighborhoods
Northwest District Assoc.
Neighbors for Clean Air
PDX North Harbor Neighbors
Portland Clean Air
South Portland Air Quality
St Johns Neighborhood Assoc.
Stop the Dump
The Dalles Air Coalition