

To the Oregon Senate Rules Committee May 17, 2017

Comments on SB 1008

Good Morning, Senators:

I am Dr. Theodora Tsongas. I am an environmental health scientist with 40 years' experience evaluating the adverse health impacts of environmental pollutants. Thank you for improving the bill. I am in support of SB1008 and I urge you to do more to achieve our state's health benchmarks, for the following reasons:

Diesel pollution in Oregon is increasing risk of cancer; damaging the heart, lungs; brain function; causing premature death; costing billions in health care costs and lost productivity.

Diesel pollution is the sole source of one of Oregon's worst toxic air pollutants, diesel particulates, and can contain cadmium, arsenic, benzene, formaldehyde and chromium compounds.

Cleaner diesel engines can run with 95% less pollution; deliver as much as \$17 in health benefits for every clean-up dollar invested; and can deliver short-term benefits to our climate by reducing black carbon pollution.

Diesel pollution in Oregon is a public health emergency. Please do all you can to improve this bill to make it effective. Our health depends on it. Thank you for considering my comments.

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