

Senator Ginny Burdick, Chair Senate Rules Committee

May 17, 2017

Testimony of Joe Rohleder for Seafood Oregon on SB1008A and the -5 amendment.

Chair Burdick and members of the committee,

My name is Joe Rohleder, representing The Oregon Dungeness Crab Commission, the Oregon Trawl Commission, the Oregon Salmon Commission, and the Oregon Albacore Commission.

Please consider the dash 5 amendment to SB 1008A. This amendment exempts marine vessels from SB 1008A. Fishermen already support clean air as most fishing vessels owners keep their boat well maintained and have already upgraded to the most fuel efficient engines their businesses can afford.

Many fishing vessels were built around their engines. It is not uncommon to lay the keel and place the ribs, then build a cradle and mount the engine finishing the boat around the engine. Replacement with a whole new engine often involves tearing off the wheel house and the deck, or in the case of metal boats cut a hole in the side. This would destroy the integrity of many in-use boats. To quote Ray Monroe, one of our Salmon Commissioners, "The experience of replacement would be catastrophic." The State of California apparently had the resources, when they enacted their clean diesel act, to pay for replacement and installation of new engines for the entire fishing fleet. Another issue is that the additives in clean diesel fuel tends to absorb water in a humid environment. I can tell you from experience the bilge of a boat is definitely a humid environment. Boats also have much larger fuel tanks than trucks or excavators, tens of thousands of gallons in some cases, making the chances of absorbing water more likely. Boats with water in the fuel do not run.

The last thing I will say is that if you drive down Highway 101 it is likely that you will see numerous diesel trucks and construction equipment but I have been on the ocean many times when I did not see another diesel for days. Currently, Oregon has slightly more than 1,000 licensed fishing vessels and 70 licensed charter fishing boats.

Please adopt the dash five amendment to SB 1008A, exempting these vessel will have little adverse effect on the quality of Oregon's air, and a great effect on some boats.