

**Regional Board
Members**

May 19, 2017

Jeff Bertalotto

Senator Burdick and members of the Senate Committee on Rules

Virginia Hall

State of Oregon

Ted Zurcher

900 Court Street NE, 160
Salem, Oregon 97301

Fighting for Air

Dear Senator Burdick and Committee Members:

When you can't breathe, nothing else matters.

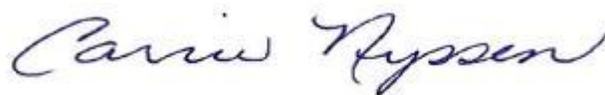
The American Lung Association in Oregon works to ensure everyone in our great state has clean, healthy air to breathe. If you have ever seen a child with asthma struggling to breathe while having an asthma attack, or seen a person with COPD struggle to breathe while walking a short distance, you have a good understanding when we say – *When you can't breathe, nothing else matters.*

Diesel pollution is one of the most harmful air pollutants. These small particles are harmful as is, yet they often carry other toxins into our lungs including cadmium, arsenic, benzene, formaldehyde and other carcinogens. Our youth are particularly susceptible to diesel pollution as their lungs are still developing. Exposure to bad air can prevent their lungs from fully developing.

The amendments move Oregon in a good direction – but more can be done to protect our public health, our children, our families and our communities. A firm timeline is needed to retire or retrofit the dirtiest diesel engines. Cleaner diesel engines run with 95% less pollution and will deliver both short-term and long-term health benefits.

The American Lung Association in Oregon thanks you for considering our air, our health and our quality of life as you consider this legislation and its amendments.

Sincerely,



Carrie Nyssen
Vice President, Advocacy and Air Quality
American Lung Association in Oregon

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Please remember the American Lung Association in your will and trust.

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