

Oregon is choking on diesel. Our state has the sixth highest diesel emissions in the country. In many Portland neighborhoods, diesel pollution exceeds state health benchmarks by 20 times or more. Because of Oregon's weak environmental regulations, we have become a dumping ground for old, outdated diesel engines that emit nearly 100 times as much harmful toxins into our air. Diesel pollution causes health problems such as cancer, cardiovascular disease, stroke, preterm birth, and chronic respiratory illness such as asthma. But this public health crisis is preventable!

Fed up with poor air, another neighbor and parent in my community, Vivian Christensen, co-sponsored a petition to encourage Oregon legislators to pass SB1008 and testified on its behalf, which would reduce diesel emissions by setting pollution standards for both on-road diesel fleets and off-road diesel engines and accelerate the clean-up of off road engines used in public contracts. In March, we collected 3,134 signatures from people across the state in just two weeks, showing how many Oregonians are fed up with Oregon's weak air quality laws and want action. **SB 1008 has since been gutted and we ask that you restore it by setting a firm timeline and requirements for the phase out of diesel engines!**

We need a strong SB 1008!

- 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, 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.

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As a state that pioneered the country's first bottle bill, implemented a renowned statewide land use planning system, and protected beaches for public access, it's upsetting to discover our dirty diesel secret. Our state prides itself on being green but now needs to catch up with Washington and California to phase out old diesel engines. **As a legislator with the power to restore SB1008 back it's original intent with a requirement to phase out dirty diesel, please help us all breathe a little easier.**

Sincerely,

Dana Visse