

June 28, 2017

Dear Senate Committee on Rules,

I am writing to you in opposition to SB 1008. I really encourage you to consider what is at stake for Oregon. This bill has undergone many, many changes through the process of attempting to pass this bill. I am still concerned about the honesty and integrity of this bill.

This bill is a wolf in sheep's clothing. I feel confident that enough of this original bill has been left, that laws will pass in the future to eventually, create what was once lobbied for. If this bill is to pay for Portland's school buses, then I ask you why not the entire state? Why just Portland? I also ask you why we would be so generous and buy the company First Student, who the City of Portland contracts for over 100 bus routes in the Portland area, new buses? I was told that Portland owns a couple hundred buses, and First Student also owns a couple hundred buses. First student also owns the larger buses and some of the smaller buses that are used in Portland. If my Oregon Senators and Representatives are feeling charitable than why not allow the people to voice their opinions on this bill. This is not an emergency! At least not by common sense standards. This is actually a lack of doing what was required of them, and irresponsible behavior as far as I'm concerned. The State of Oregon adopted rules that were not taken seriously by those who own school buses, whether it is a state entity or a contractor.

I encourage you all to vote this bill OUT. I encourage the group to regroup and decide what they are really looking for because this bill's transformation is ridiculous. Why not toss this mess out and start from scratch with a transparent goal. Also, I encourage you to take a look at the entire situation, not just one aspect of it. I am the co-owner of a log truck company and a mother who values doing what is right and just for all; not just for a small group. I still clearly see the opportunity for this bill to evolve back to what it once was by creating new laws. If this is about buses then take out the DEQ, and third party to keep a log of diesel engines. Why would we need to afford that expense as a state, if this is just about the buses? I know many log truck and dump truck owners that are listing their homes for sale and looking to relocate to Idaho and Montana. If the out of state folks moving here share these California CARB views, and if the goal is for Oregon to reevaluate its natural resources, than sure pass this through and we will migrate too. My log truck resides in a rural city, and hauls logs from the mountains, then delivered to a rural mill. This is not a once you've seen a truck then you understand the business type of thing. Big rigs do a lot of different things, in a lot of different places and they are necessary. Oregon has a lot of wide open spaces, if you feel that logs delivered via Prius cars is the way to go, then by all power to you, push this through and let it grow. I guess you could fill with gravel too, but concrete may be an issue. Our big rigs pay a lot of taxes to many state entities. Please don't discount the fact that you are potentially deciding the future of your General Fund. I know how you all like your General Fund. Please consider ALL of the costs associated with this bill. No truck = no taxes. Also, trucks cost a lot of money. Again, please really look at the entire picture before you decide the fate of many tax paying citizens, your constituents.

Sincerely,

Melissa Tucker
CO-Owner of TKM Logging, LLC.