



To: Chair Greenlick, House Committee on Health Care  
From: Margaret Tallmadge, Coalition of Communities of Color  
Re: HB 4003

February 6, 2018

Dear Chair Greenlick and Members of the Committee,

The Coalition of Communities of Color (CCC) expresses our continued support for common-sense diesel reform that addresses harmful diesel pollution from heavy-duty diesel engines, including trucks and construction equipment, helping keep frontline communities across Oregon—communities of color, low-income communities, tribes, rural communities, immigrants, and refugees— healthy and thriving. We urge you to ensure clear timelines, funding sources, and plans for phasing diesel engines out of our communities and out of Oregon.

The CCC is an alliance of 19 culturally-specific community-based organizations working to advance racial justice by addressing socioeconomic disparities, institutional racism, and inequity in services. We are a diverse coalition of community leaders, organizers, direct service providers, and racial justice advocates that represent a broad cross-section of communities in Oregon.

Many of our communities live near high traffic corridors and suffer from heightened health risks due to toxic air quality, in particular, diesel exhaust. Diesel pollution has grave health consequences for Oregonians, especially for communities of color, low-income communities, children and the elderly; increasing the risk of cancer, damaging lungs, brain function, causing heart attacks, infertility and leading to premature death. In addition to disproportionate exposure, our communities have limited ability to afford increased medical bills or move away from a toxic environment.

The Coalition of Communities of Color hopes you will join us in our collective efforts to reduce toxic diesel, making frontline communities and the health of Oregonians a priority.

Please contact [maggie@coalitioncommunitiescolor.org](mailto:maggie@coalitioncommunitiescolor.org) if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Margaret Tallmadge".

Margaret Tallmadge  
Environmental Justice Manager  
Coalition of Communities of Color

