



CITY OF
PORTLAND, OREGON

Ted Wheeler, Mayor
Amanda Fritz, Commissioner
Nick Fish, Commissioner
Dan Saltzman, Commissioner
Chloe Eudaly, Commissioner

February 8, 2018

Representative Mitch Greenlick, Chair
House Committee on Health Care
900 Court Street NE, HR E
Salem, Oregon 97301

RE: HB 4003

Dear Chair Greenlick and Members of the Committee,

The City of Portland supports HB 4003 to reduce emissions from diesel engines. Diesel particulate matter poses a serious threat to public health in Portland and other Oregon communities. HB 4003 will transition Oregon away from older diesel engines and improve air quality in communities throughout the state.

North Portland has the highest level of diesel particulate matter in the state, nearly 20 times the health standard. However, most of Portland experiences higher levels of diesel pollution than the State adopted health standard. Diesel exhaust is 100 times more toxic than gasoline exhaust, and includes fine sooty particles layered in heavy metals and toxic gases.

In order to address effects on human health, the City of Portland has prioritized improved air quality through replacement and retrofits of high-polluting diesel equipment, a commitment dating back to 2006. We have retrofitted nearly all of the City's diesel vehicles and construction equipment with diesel emission controls through federal grant programs. However, addressing diesel emissions through City policy alone is exceedingly difficult, and the aggregate benefits of such efforts are limited. The City supports statewide standards and incentives that cover both on-road and off-road fleets.

We respectfully urge your support for HB 4003. Thank you for your consideration.

Ted Wheeler
Mayor

Amanda Fritz
Commissioner

Nick Fish
Commissioner

Dan Saltzman
Commissioner

Chloe Eudaly
Commissioner