

According to Upstream Research, my neighborhood ranks in the 93<sup>rd</sup> percentile for airborne cancer risk for the entire country. Oregon finally has the chance to enact meaningful environmental policy that protects human health over short-term corporate profit, but without adequate funding, Cleaner Air Oregon will have little impact. As a resident of Portland, Oregon, I am in support of HB 4002.

A recent article in the Oregonian (January 5, 2018) described DEQ's budget as inadequate leading to "substantial permit and inspection backlogs, potentially increasing the chances that businesses aren't complying with the latest pollution laws." We must do better than this. Oregon's lack of regulations for air pollution must be addressed, and HB 4002 will help Oregonians breathe easier. Currently, industry is free to release toxins, including heavy metals classified as neurotoxins and known to cause cancer, into the air with little regard of its impact on public health. I am writing to you because members of my community, and those living in similar communities heavily impacted by industrial emissions, need DEQ's help to ensure that Cleaner Air Oregon will do what the Governor promised – clean up Oregon's toxic air. In order for DEQ to do its job and for Cleaner Air Oregon to have meaningful impact, this important legislation must be adequately funded.

California has some of the strictest regulations in the country, yet they have a booming economy. The claim that stricter environmental regulations will result in job loss is a tired narrative that has been proven false. The federal Office of Management and Budget found that air pollution regulation benefits often exceed costs by a 10 to 1 ratio. Currently, Oregonians are shouldering the public health costs of air pollution. It's time for Oregon to become a leader in designing, implementing, and enforcing health-based environmental regulations. Passing HB4002 will help pave the way.

Sincerely,

Vivian Christensen

6130 SE Reed College Place

Portland, OR 97202