



March 19, 2019

Chair Helm, Vice-Chair Reschke, Vice-Chair Schouten, and Members of the Committee,

RE: Children First for Oregon urges support of HB 2007

Children First represents the interests of Oregon's nearly 875,000 children and believes that together, with communities and leaders across the state, we can build a state where all children thrive. Through the development of the Children's Agenda we work with our more than 110 partner organizations to identify and elevate legislative concepts that will support the needs of Oregon's children. HB 2007 is part of the 2019 Children's Agenda.

Clean air is crucial to a healthy childhood. Diesel is a statewide problem raising cancer risk for the vast majority of our population, but it falls hardest on minority and low-income populations. According to the [updated toxics reduction strategy](#) presented to the Environmental Quality Commission in January 2019:

- Diesel exhaust is linked to lung cancer, asthma, bronchitis and neurological disorders
- Diesel pollution is one of the five most hazardous pollutants for children
- Childhood exposure to diesel results in "more-potent cancer and health impacts" over a lifetime

Children First for Oregon supports SB 2007 and its efforts to reduce diesel emissions. SB 2007 will help stem the damage done to our children's health from exposure to diesel emissions. With clean air to breathe, our children will be healthier and better able to reach their full potential.

Thank you for your support of Oregon's children. We request your support of HB 2007.

Sincerely,

Chris Coughlin
Legislative Director