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

My name is Collin Romer, a father of two and a fourth-generation Oregonian. I am writing you today to express my support for HB 2007 and for the reduction of harmful diesel pollution in our state.

I am a proud Oregonian who has a hard time saying anything bad about my home, but in this case, I am truly ashamed at our state's longtime inaction on the issue of diesel pollution. Tom McCall is an Oregon hero of mine, and someone whose actions embodied the spirit of our state's natural beauty. I could only imagine what he'd say as we've watched Oregon cede environmental leadership to Washington and California on this vital public health matter.

Diesel pollution and the undeniable host of health ailments it causes is a community-wide problem that affects us all. The undeveloped lungs and respiratory systems of children are particularly vulnerable. I live near an increasingly busy stretch of I-5, and close to the N. Columbia industrial corridor. My sons' school and all the innocent children that attend do too. They have to breathe dirty diesel, and they shouldn't have to. It's in your hands to enact change and do what our neighbors to the north and south have already done – prioritize public health over the profits of a few special interests.

Please support strong amendments, bold action and HB 2007 for the kids of North Portland and children across our beautiful state. Every Oregonian is entitled to breathe clean air, and it's in your hands to help make that right a reality.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Collin Romer, North Portland