

Mayor Mark Gamba
City of Milwaukie
10722 SE Main St
Milwaukie, OR 97222

3/20/19

House Committee on Energy and Environment
900 Court St., NE
Salem, OR 97301

Re: Support for H.B. 2007

Dear House Committee on Energy and Environment,

On behalf of the Milwaukie City Council, I write to express our unanimous support for legislative efforts to increase the regulation of diesel emissions, which is one of Oregon's worst air quality problems. Oregon's regulation of diesel pollution has lagged behind the rest of the West Coast for years, needlessly impacting the health and well-being of Oregon's most vulnerable people. In addition to health impacts, sooty diesel particulates contribute significantly to global climate change and local heat island effects.

While we hope to see more attention devoted in the years ahead to railroad locomotive emissions, an issue of particular concern here in Milwaukie, we find H.B. 2007 to be a great start. Cleaning up Oregon's diesel fleet will directly benefit Milwaukieans, many of whom live close to Brooklyn Yard and Highway 99E and are subjected daily to the exhaust from hundreds of diesel trucks. We particularly applaud the creation of the Supporting Businesses in Reducing Diesel Emissions Task Force, as well as the amendment of ORS 468A.805(2)(b) to allow greater flexibility for Environmental Mitigation Trust Agreement funds to be used for retrofits and replacement of older nonroad diesel engines.

We unanimously support passage of H.B. 2007, but do want to share a few comments for your consideration:

- That the exceptions in section 3 might be overly expansive – in particular, given the wise provision for retrofits, the inclusion of a fleet averaging option seems a likely enforcement dilemma that threatens to diminish the

impact of the legislation, and may allow “hotspots” of pollution to persist, particularly in at-risk communities;



- That the discussion of funding for school buses does not create an incentive for the purchase of electric buses;

Thank you for your time and attention. If we can provide any further information, please do not hesitate to contact Kelly Brooks, Assistant City Manager at 503.786.7573 or BrooksK@milwaukieoregon.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M Gamba', written in a cursive style.

Mark Gamba, Mayor