

Caitlin Bui <caitlin.m.bui@gmail.com>

Regarding the HB2007

Oregon State Legislation,

I will be testifying for the Clean Diesel Bill, which takes up the issue of dirty diesel in Oregon. I fully support it because my school, Lincoln High School, is near I-5, therefore exposing students to diesel exhaust and being a danger to students, especially those who suffer from asthma or other breathing problems. Those could end up with the I've also noticed the endless construction in the Portland area, which is also powered by diesel engines. Diesel exhaust is very toxic and is a harm to people around it.

Exposure to exhaust leads to a higher risk of heart attack, stroke, cardiovascular disease, and lung cancer. The American Cancer Society says that a majority of people have lung cancer due to the exposure to diesel exhaust. Government regulations may be as important as personal choices in limiting exposure to potentially harmful chemicals in diesel exhaust. For example, as a result of EPA regulations and improvements in technology, new diesel engines give off much lower amounts of certain chemicals than older engines. Still, it's not yet clear how much this might lower the risks, and many older diesel engines are still in use, so it makes sense to avoid exposure whenever possible.

You may have heard of the Clean Air Act, the United States federal law designed to control air pollution on a national level. However, Linda George, an atmospheric chemist at Portland State University, states that "diesel particulate matter is one of the air toxics that didn't get regulated in the Clean Air Act. So it's part of the unfinished business of the Clean Air Act." If we don't do something about the diesel fumes constantly being released, diesel exhaust will only increase and become a bigger risk to our environment and to us.

I really hope you consider the Clean Diesel Bill. Not only am I speaking for my health and safety, but I am speaking for future generations who could have a higher risk of exposure to diesel pollution. I want there to be sustainability in our environment. I want my children and other future generations to live in a world where they won't be suffering from air pollution and live a safe life.

Thank you,
Caitlin Bui (Lincoln High School)