

4315 SE 16th Ave
Portland, Oregon 97202
April 3, 2019

Ken Helm, Chair
E. Werner Reschke, Vice Chair
Sheri Schouten, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Energy and Environment
RE: HB 2007

Via Email

Dear Chair Helm, Vice Chairs Reschke and Schouten, and Members of the Committee

RE: HB 2007, Diesel Bill.

I am a member of Portland Neighbors for Diesel Action, an all-volunteer group operating as a sub-committee of Southeast Uplift. We have become aware that the current Oregon Anti-Idling Law is rarely if ever enforced. We understand that the penalties for violation are minimal, and that the number and extent of exemptions make it very difficult to enforce effectively. Battery-powered auxiliary heaters and fuel-powered auxiliary heaters are commonly available for providing heat for drivers. Perhaps, in addition to repealing the local pre-emption of anti-idling regulation, HB 2007 could make modest improvements in the Oregon Commercial Vehicle Anti-Idling Law, including a special provision that would apply to school buses. In California, the Commercial Vehicle Anti-Idling Regulation requires that a school bus must shut down its engine immediately upon arrival and leave within 30 seconds of starting the engine; it also provides a means for individual reports of idling violations. We are not aware of a similar Oregon regulation for school buses.

Improvements to the anti-idling law, especially including stronger provisions for school buses (and buses in general), would help to reduce particulate emissions at schools and in neighborhoods experiencing heavy construction. Stronger regulations for commercial buses would help reduce the exposure at bus stations.

I know this is late in the process but I appreciate the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Wesley T Ward". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

Wesley T Ward
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