

I'm writing to strongly recommend that the Committee support HB 2479.

Oregon needs to do everything possible to reduce global warming. This includes not only rapidly reducing CO2, but black carbon as well. Black carbon is widely acknowledged in the scientific community as being a potent contributor to climate heating, and as having "per unit of mass, a warming impact on climate that is 460 - 1,500 times stronger than CO2."
<https://www.ccacoalition.org/en/slcps/black-carbon>

Because black carbon stays in the atmosphere only days to weeks versus more than a hundred years as is the case with CO2, reducing black carbon provides a particularly effective and rapid opportunity to reduce the rate of global heating.

One of the largest contributors of black carbon emissions in Oregon is the burning of diesel fuel. A number of recent studies have found that BIPOC communities in Oregon are disproportionately exposed to the pollutants emitted -- including carbon black -- that result from burning diesel fuel. Such communities disproportionately experience the health effects linked to such exposures, including circulatory, respiratory, neurological and other problems, as well as cancer and premature death.

Thus black carbon poses major climate and health problems, and its reduction results in rapid and significant improvements in both, especially in BIPOC communities.

Passage of HB 2479 contributes to both of the above improvements, and I thus strongly recommend its passage.

Joe Miller
Portland, OR