



February 15, 2023

House Committee on Climate, Energy, and Environment  
Oregon State Capitol  
900 Court St. NE  
Salem, Oregon 97301

**Re: HB 2396 – Support**

Chair Marsh, Vice-Chairs Levy and Levy, Members of the Committee,

Climate Solutions is a regional non-profit working to accelerate clean energy solutions to the climate crisis. We write in support of HB 2396 and offer the following perspectives.

Federal and state emissions modeling has demonstrated that Oregon has dangerous levels of diesel particulate matter putting [90%](#) of Oregonians at risk to health effects of toxic diesel pollution that has been linked to higher rates of cancer, heart disease, and respiratory disorders. The statistics are even worse for BIPOC and low-income communities where historic racist public policies like redlining, and inner-city highway construction, has led to higher toxic concentrations of diesel pollution due to busy trucking corridors, bus depots, distribution hubs, and seaports that are disproportionately located in BIPOC and low-income communities. In 2018, [a study](#) confirmed that those experiencing poverty are exposed to 35% more air pollution (specifically PM 2.5) than the average American, non-whites are exposed to 28% more than average, and Black people are exposed to a staggering 54% more air pollution than average.

HB 2396 directs the EQC to establish an indirect source review program that implements regulations for indirect sources of pollution, which are almost entirely unregulated in Oregon. These sources include; distribution centers, marine ports, rail yards, and construction sites, and account for about [65%](#) of the harmful air emissions in the Portland Metro area and 32% state-wide. Thus, the need for regulation of these sources is paramount.

Should this bill succeed, we believe that Oregonians will live longer, healthier lives. We are confident that reducing the emissions of harmful air toxics:

1. Will Reduce the risk of the three leading causes of death in Multnomah County (cancer, heart disease and respiratory illness)
2. Improve the lives of our most vulnerable neighbors by reducing the risk of [COVID](#) and [absenteeism](#), as well as improving mental health and academic performance
3. Save billions every year in health care costs and lost workdays
4. Reduce Oregon's contributions to global climate change



**Please join us in supporting HB 2396 – a bill that will help all Oregonians breathe a little easier.**

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Miranda Miller", is written in a cursive style.

Miranda Miller  
Government Affairs Director, Strategies 360  
On Behalf of Climate Solutions