

Submitter: Jennifer Coleman

On Behalf Of: self

Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment

Measure: HB3229

The more that science reveals connections between air quality and human health, the more we must consider air quality permitting enforcement an investment in both health and economic resilience.

When air quality compromises the ability of kids to learn and people to work, when pollution increases hospitalizations and medical costs, Oregon's communities and our economy bear the burden.

Heat extremes and forest fires from a changing climate are likely to exacerbate air quality issues in Oregon. Though industrial sources may only be a small contribution to overall state air quality, they can have profound effects in nearby neighborhoods, many that bear the greatest burden of both risk and harm from multiple cumulative sources.

It is not in Oregon's best interest to defer or delay air quality controls. It will only become more expensive as federal laws change and become more complex. Oregon industry must keep up.

It is only fair for the sources of air pollution to pay their share of the costs to make sure we have a working system to protect health and air quality. I support updating federal operating permit program fees, and I respectfully encourage Committee members to do the same. Thank you for closely considering this proposal.