

Submitter: Jennifer Davis  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3119

Dear Legislators,

The black carbon from Diesel engines not only contributes significantly to heart disease, lung disease, Alzheimer's, asthma and other illnesses, it also vastly accelerates climate change, according to this conservative World Bank report. Many scientific studies confirm that we must act quickly to mitigate climate change and protect human health by tightening Diesel truck pollution.

In 2012, the World Health Organization (WHO) declared the emissions from diesel combustion to be carcinogenic. Last month, the WHO released data showing that more than 7 million deaths are caused by indoor and outdoor air pollution. The black smoke from diesel engines is a part of outdoor air pollution contributed by buses and trucks, as my son would tell me after we finished our game.

What he does not know as yet is that a study by a team of international scientists in 2013 noted that diesel smoke consists primarily of black carbon, which has a strong global warming impact on the climate; nearly 3,300 time more than that of carbon dioxide over a 20-year time period.

The one simple and clear message from the triangulation of current scientific evidence is that reducing diesel emissions provides health and climate benefits.

<https://blogs.worldbank.org/en/climatechange/diesel-emissions-health-and-climate-impacts>