

Submitter: Kaila Saechao

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Emergency Management, General Government, and Veterans

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3062

Hello, my name is Kaila Saechao, a current student at Parkrose High School and resident of the Parkrose Heights community. As a member of the community, I am here today to speak in support of HB3062, which focuses on improving air quality standards and reducing pollution in our communities. I would hope to gain your engagement and attention you to support this bill because clean air is not just a privilege—it is a necessity for survival. I would hope to gain your engagement and attention to stopping the continuous actions of the declining air quality through the creation of poisonous and toxic pollutants from the fumes of melted or decaying waste. Along with how the big heavy factories and truck stops are emitting out CO₂ emissions through the gas they use. The pollution created by them can cause long effects of respiratory issues, or those with respiratory problems greater risk for them. With the biggest risk being death.

For that, I express my concerns because of these risks I fear for my close loved ones who are around the area or surrounding area and the ones who work within these factories or locations where that waste isn't properly disposed of. Growing up in Parkrose, I have seen firsthand how poor air quality affects our health. Most of my younger community members has asthma, and there have been days when the air had sort of descended causing them the inability to couldn't go outside without having difficulty breathing. It is heartbreaking to watch someone you love struggle for air—something that should be freely available to all of us. And they are not alone. Many children and elderly residents in our community are vulnerable to respiratory diseases made worse by air pollution. According to the American Lung Association, long-term exposure to polluted air increases the risk of asthma, lung infections, and even heart disease. In highly populated areas like ours, the risk is even greater because emissions from traffic, industrial sites, and wildfires can create dangerously unhealthy conditions. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has stated that reducing air pollution can prevent thousands of premature deaths each year. This bill would help enforce stronger regulations to ensure cleaner air, benefiting the health of all Oregonians.

Clean air should not be negotiable. By passing this bill, you have the power to protect public health, especially for vulnerable populations like children, the elderly, and those with pre-existing conditions. Our community cannot afford to wait while pollution continues to harm us. I urge you to stand with us and support this bill for a healthier, safer future.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Sensorially Kaila Saechao