

Submitter: Jennifer Davis

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3062

Dear Committee Members,

Everyone, Republican or Democrat, knows children with asthma, adults with asthma, lung cancer, dementia and heart disease. It is well established that air pollution is a contributor to, and can even directly cause these ailments.

Enriching industries while harming our own health is a foolish way for a society to function. We can and must do better, and ultimately we will all be more prosperous and healthier.

Here are some startling details from the National Institutes of Health:

<https://www.niehs.nih.gov/health/topics/agents/air-pollution>

Please support fair and balanced HB 3062 to protect the health and quality of life of our citizens.

Breathing PM 2.5, even at relatively low levels, may alter the size of a child's developing brain, which may ultimately increase the risk for cognitive and emotional problems later in adolescence.

Alzheimer's disease and related dementias are a public health challenge for aging populations. NIEHS-funded researchers at the University of Washington identified a link between air pollution and dementias. This well-conducted study adds considerable evidence that ambient air fine particles increase risk of dementias.

Osteoporosis affects women more than men. A large study associated high levels of air pollutants with bone damage, particularly in the lumbar spine, among postmenopausal women. This study expands previous findings linking air pollution and bone damage.

In the rural U.S., large-scale animal feeding operations might compromise regional air quality through emission of pollutants, such as ammonia gas. A study found acute lung function problems in children with asthma in such areas.

Air pollution was linked to a greater chance of developing several neurological disorders, including Parkinson's disease, Alzheimer's disease, and other dementias. Hospital admissions data from 63 million older adults in the U.S., obtained over 17 years (2000-2016), was analyzed along with estimated PM2.5 concentrations by zip

code to conduct the study. Another study with data from 10-year long exposures also found a relationship between CO and PM2.5 and an increased chance of developing Parkinson's disease.

Fine particulate matter can impair blood vessel function and speed up calcification in arteries.

NIEHS researchers established links between short-term daily exposure by post-menopausal women to nitrogen oxides and increased risk of hemorrhagic stroke. For some older Americans, exposure to TRAP can result in lowered levels of high-density lipoprotein, sometimes called good cholesterol, increasing their risk for cardiovascular disease.

Using a national dataset of older adults, researchers found that 10-year long exposures to PM2.5 and NO2 increased the risks of colorectal and prostate cancers.

Best regards,
Jennifer Davis