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May 19, 2017

Senate Majority Leader Ginny Burdick
Chair, Senate Committee on Rules
900 Court St. NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

RE: Support for Strengthening Senate Bill 1008

Dear Chair Burdick and Committee Members:

We are writing to request that you support the -3 amendments to strengthen Senate Bill 1008—Clean Engines, Clean Air—and ask that you further improve this bill by including a timeline to phase out the most polluting heavy-duty diesel vehicles and limiting idling of these trucks.

Despite making up a small fraction of the state's vehicle population, heavy-duty vehicles fueled by diesel disproportionately contribute to local and regional air pollution in Oregon. This pollution has been shown to affect nearly every organ system in the body with consequences ranging from increased risks of heart and lung disease, to pre-mature births, cancer, and pre-mature death.

Because of industry innovation and regulatory emission standards, new diesel engines are much cleaner today than they were in the past. California has taken the additional step of accelerating the replacement of diesel through regulatory actions, to ensuring the most polluting diesel vehicles are phased out in a timely manner. Unfortunately, neighboring states do not have similar provisions and California's older, higher polluting vehicles can make their way to places like Oregon.

We specifically support language prohibiting the addition of pre-2007 diesel vehicles to Oregon's vehicle population. But this bill must also set deadlines for phasing-out older, higher polluting diesel engines already operating in Oregon and contributing to poor air quality and increased risks to public health. For reference, nearly all heavy-duty trucks and buses in California will need to meet standards set for 2010 model year engines by January 1, 2023.

Thank you for working to reduce emissions and improve air quality in Oregon.

Sincerely,

Jimmy O'Dea

Jason C Barbose

Jimmy O'Dea, Ph.D.
Vehicles Analyst, Clean Vehicles Program

Jason Barbose
Western States Policy Manager