

House Health Care Committee Members:

I have been pushing for better air in my downtown Portland neighborhood ever since I moved here in 2009. But I have felt very stymied by state law that both preempts local idling laws and allows freight companies to buy vehicles that were rejected in CA and WA. HB 4003 will remedy that.

Another issue: I lived next door to the construction site of a 15-story building that spewed pollutants for nearly three years. I had requested a "Good Neighbor Agreement" restricting dirty diesel but was refused. Part of the problem was that there was no law supporting my request.

From my notes of that 7-29-14 meeting:

Me: Will you commit to No Dirty Diesel Good Neighbor Agreement?

Sean from Absher [a Seattle construction company that has to meet WA law] **NO!!!** I CANNOT commit to No Dirty Diesel—only to meeting Oregon law!

Me: WHY?

Sean from Absher: "Most of our subcontractors are local."

So, for the past three years, my neighbors and I have had to put up with construction pollution in addition to the everyday pollution from idling delivery vehicles in the street in front of our building and the dirty diesel trucks that are a constant on I-405 one block away. This has taken quite a toll on the health of many of the people in my building--and cost our state health system far more than changing our laws will.

There are still plenty of construction sites left in my downtown neighborhood and neither we nor other Oregon residents should have to go through this ordeal and threat to our health.

After all these years with dirty diesel, I hope Oregon will finally live up to its environmental reputation and **PASS HB 4003 THIS YEAR!!!**

Thanks,

Mary Vogel