

Representative Marsh and Members of the Committee,

My name is Andy Harris. I am a physician and board member of Oregon Physicians for Social Responsibility and am submitting written testimony in support of HB 2543.

I live in North Portland on the bluff directly above Union Pacific rail yards and the Swan Island UPS and FedEx trucking distribution centers. My house is just four blocks from I-5, and air pollution from diesel emissions in our neighborhood is among the highest in Oregon.

Particulate matter from diesel emissions cause and exacerbate asthma in children and adults, as well as increase the severity of emphysema, COPD and pneumonia. Diesel emissions also increase the incidence of ADHD, autism, and learning disabilities in children. Older people have higher rates of dementia and Parkinson's Disease when exposed to diesel pollution. And diesel emissions are known to cause lung and bladder cancer, heart disease and stroke.

According to the U.S. EPA, the toll on the health and productivity of Oregonians from diesel exhaust is estimated to be \$3.5 billion each year.

Diesel emissions are also a significant source of Black Carbon, which has a powerful effect on climate change, many times that of carbon dioxide over the short term.

HB 2814 will direct EQC to develop rules to regulate indirect sources of diesel emissions. The legislation is urgently needed to protect the health of Oregonians.

Thank you for your consideration to support HB 2814.

Andy Harris, MD  
Board of Directors  
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