



March 8, 2021

House Committee on Energy and Environment

Representative Pam Marsh, Chair  
Representative Ken Helm, Vice-Chair  
Representative David Brock Smith, Vice-Chair  
Representative Tina Kotek  
Representative Raquel Moore-Green  
Representative Mark Owens  
Representative Khanh Pham

RE: HB 2814

Dear Chair Marsh, Vice Chairs Helm and Brock Smith, and Committee Members,

On behalf of the Portland Downtown Neighborhood Association (The DNA) I am writing in support of HB 2814 and urge you to move this bill forward and to advocate for its ultimate passage into law. Downtown Portland is the most densely populated community in Oregon with almost 15,000 residents as well as people studying and working in this small geographic area of downtown Portland. As such we live amidst constant construction activity with aging diesel equipment, railways, shipping terminals, diesel delivery trucks and vehicles, and we are surrounded by highways and freeways.

Our members come from diverse backgrounds and political persuasions. And many of us are older and therefore vulnerable to environmental toxins especially

when exposed (as we are) 24 hours a day to diesel emissions. That means that our members are prone to be among Oregon's 400+ premature deaths and 140+ heart attacks each year and will contribute to the \$3 billion annual public health costs.

This measure is a balanced approach to finally establishing and implementing an indirect-source review program. Sadly, our state has fallen behind in accepting the dire warnings science is telling us regarding the hazards of air contaminant emissions from diesel particulate pollution and black carbon which is degrading our environment. The Portland Metropolitan Area is shamefully a more dangerous place to live and work than 95% of the rest of the entire country due to unregulated diesel particulate matter.

This is a bill that is long overdue. Dealing with this health crisis can not wait. We urge you to move this bill out of committee and we urge it's immediate passage by both the Oregon House and the Senate.



Walter Weyler  
Chair, Downtown Neighborhood Association



Wendy Rahm  
Vice Chair, Downtown Neighborhood Association

The DNA Air Quality Task Force  
Chris Neilson  
Carolyn Whitney  
Diana Stuart  
Robert Wright  
Marian deBardelaben