

Chair Marsh, Vice-Chair Levy B., Vice-Chair Levy E., and Members of the Committee:

I stand in opposition to HB 2819 as it goes against the very foundation of environmental protection. The pollution control equipment requirements are put in place to reduce the harmful emissions that contribute to the deterioration of our planet. By permitting vehicle dealers to issue temporary registration permits for vehicles that do not have proof of compliance, we are essentially giving a green light to continue polluting the environment.

Furthermore, the requirement for dealers to provide written notice to the purchaser is not enough. It does not hold the dealer accountable for ensuring that the vehicle complies with pollution control requirements before selling it. This bill puts the onus of proving compliance on the purchaser, who may not be well-equipped to do so.

The modification of trip permit issuance by the Department of Transportation is also concerning. It is unclear how this will impact the enforcement of pollution control requirements. The Department of Transportation is responsible for ensuring that all vehicles on the road meet the necessary standards to protect our environment. By modifying the trip permit issuance, we risk creating loopholes that will allow non-compliant vehicles to continue operating on the road.

In conclusion, I strongly urge the rejection of HB 2819. It undermines the vital role of pollution control equipment requirements and creates a lax approach to enforcing environmental protection. We must prioritize the health of our planet and the well-being of future generations over the convenience of vehicle dealers.

Sincerely,

*Devon Lawson-McCourt*

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