

Submitter: Ellieanna Graves
On Behalf Of: Neighbors For Clean Air
Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment
Measure: HB2396

I'm here today with the LHS Environmental Justice class. This year we've learned so much. We've learned about how clean air affects everyone, especially those in communities where construction is just part of their daily lives. I agree with bill HB2396 because my school has also been dealing with construction. Tearing down buildings and emitting so many different air contaminating pollutants around and into the communities isn't safe and I feel need to be regulated.

We've gone to school next to construction since the end of my freshman year in 2020. We were cut short from covid but we still went to school everyday before that breathing in the dust and diesel from these machines. We were constantly distracted during class due to the loud noises happening right next to us. It was everyday that this was happening and some kids were sensitive to changes like that. I know I was. My lungs already work at only a 60% capacity bringing in dust, diesel, and other pollutants made my system work on overdrive. Going up one flight of stairs was hard, my lungs felt like they were burning and I couldn't get a proper breath in till I was seated and taking deep breaths for a few minutes. I once went into anaphylaxis after having allergy shots. I had just gotten over a cold the week prior but because of our air quality and my still healing body I had a reaction. They had to give me an epipen and liquid zyrtec, my face was redder than a beet, and I was on oxygen for an hour. This was all just last year. When they were finally done building our school they started tearing down the old one. That led to Asbestos and more chemicals being unleashed into the air.