

January 30, 2025

House Committee on Climate, Energy, and Environment 900 Court Street NE, Room 453 Salem, OR 97301

Dear Chair Lively and members of the Climate, Energy and Environment Committee,

My name is Carrie Nyssen and I am the Senior Director of Advocacy for the American Lung Association in Oregon. The American Lung Association is the oldest voluntary public health association in the United States, representing the more than 670,000 Oregonians living with lung diseases. The Lung Association works to save lives by improving lung health and preventing lung disease through research, education and advocacy.

I write in strong opposition to HB 3119, which would repeal Oregon's critical air quality truck air pollution standards, worsening air pollution that harms public health.

Trucks contribute significantly to air pollution in Oregon. The American Lung Association's '<u>Delivering</u> <u>Clean Air</u>' report, finds medium- and heavy-duty trucks contribute 59% of ozone- and particle-forming NOx emissions, despite making up just 6% of on-road vehicle emissions. Those living closest to major trucking routes face more significant burdens of pollution and they also tend to be people of color and have lower incomes, according to the US EPA.

The health impacts of truck pollution include asthma attacks, heart attacks, lung and cardiovascular diseases, and premature death. Air pollution is also associated with metabolic and central nervous system risks, impairment in cognitive functioning, and pregnancy complications. Diesel exhaust is a toxic air contaminant known to cause cancer. The elderly, children and those with lung disease are even more vulnerable to these impacts.

The Advanced Clean Trucks rule is an important tool for reducing toxic trucking pollution and providing significant public health savings in Oregon, make protecting ACT a top priority of the American Lung Association. The 'Delivering Clean Air' report also finds that transition to zero-emission trucks powered by clean energy could provide Oregon with \$1.1 billion in public health benefits, and avoid 103 premature deaths, 2,553 asthma attacks and 13,100 lost workdays over the coming decades.

Rolling back successful air quality truck standards is harmful to the lung health of Oregonians, particularly to children and the elderly. We regrettably ask for a 'NO' vote on this legislation to secure the state's commitment to reducing air pollution and securing public health.

Sincerely,

Carrie Rypsen

Carrie Nyssen Senior Director of Advocacy American Lung Association in Oregon