

Submitter:

Patricia Hine

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

Joint Committee On Transportation

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

HB2945

Dear Co-Chairs Senator Gorsek and Representative McClain, Vice-Chairs, and Committee Members,

I am a retired Navy Commander and college instructor, and I am married to an Oregon educator. We all know that the future of our good country depends on the young people in our schools who will one day be the leaders of tomorrow.

It has never been more important to protect these children during their schooling from the mounting health hazards of school bus diesel exhaust. Kids are dealing with many physical & mental health issues, as well as safety issues in their daily lives, and this is one thing we can do to greatly improve their lives. Especially children in historically underrepresented communities.

It will save money for school districts in the long run. Our family has been driving all electric vehicles since 2006 and have saved untold amounts of money on fuel and maintenance. Oregonians want zero-emissions vehicles, and of course this should include school buses. A no-brainer.

Please fund the new zero pollution school program at \$20 million annually, and align it with continued support for the MHD ZEV Rebate Program (\$30M/year) and charging infrastructure (\$10M/year). The program needs stable funding.

Thank you.