

Action Alert: DIESEL BILL GUTTED - Call Your Oregon State Senator & Governor Brown THIS WEEK



Oregon Public Health Association

Working together to make health happen

## ACTION ALERT

### **DIESEL BILL GUTTED IN SENATE COMMITTEE NOW IS THE TIME TO APPLY GRASSROOTS PRESSURE**

#### **CONTEXT**

OPHA officially endorsed [SB 1008](#) because as originally written it would have reduced diesel engine emissions across the state and would have helped reduce exposure for children in particular. Eliminating dirty diesel exhaust saves lives and is the only way to ensure clean air for every Oregonian. Here is the link to its OLIS page: <https://olis.leg.state.or.us/liz/2017R1/Measures/Overview/SB1008>.

On Monday, April 17th it was completely gutted in the Senate Committee on Environment & Natural Resources before it passed out of committee 5-0 and was moved into Senate Ways & Means in advance of the 4/18 bill deadline. **Nearly every provision that prompted OPHA to support the bill was deleted.**

- [Click here](#) to view a chart that shows a comparison of what OPHA endorsed vs. what is moving forward.

#### **ACTION REQUEST THIS WEEK AND NEXT**

Call your Oregon state senator and Governor Brown THIS WEEK on Tuesday 4/18, Wednesday 4/19, and Thursday 4/20 to ask them to help restore and support SB 1008 for clean air. **It is still worthwhile to call next week if you don't have time this week.**

Here is a sample call or message to work from or use verbatim, knowing that making messages personal always works best!

#### **Calling your state senator:**

"Hi, may I please speak with Senator XYZ? Great, thank you! - OR - Yes, of course I can speak with you/her aide.

I am a constituent and am calling because I support clean, healthy air for all Oregonians and I just learned that SB 1008, a good bill that would have reduced diesel pollution across the state, was gutted earlier this week and now fails completely to bring us any closer to breathing clean air in our state. I am especially upset because this bill would have improved the health of children.

This type of politics as usual does not sit well with me, especially with national politics the way they are. States need to do more, not less, for public health and the environment when the US EPA's budget is being drastically slashed. I expect Senator XYZ to help restore SB 1008 because s/he should be a supporter of healthy air. Thank you for your time. I hope you are hearing from lots of concerned constituents like me!"

#### **Calling Governor Brown:**

"Hi, I am calling to convey a message to Governor Brown.

I support clean, healthy air for all Oregonians and I just learned that SB 1008, a good bill that would have reduced diesel pollution and improved public health across the state, was gutted earlier this week in the Senate Committee on Environment & Natural Resources. It now fails completely to bring us any closer to breathing clean air in our state. I am especially upset because this bill would have improved the health of children.

This type of politics as usual does not sit well with me, especially with national politics the way they are. States need to do more, not less, for public health and the environment when the US EPA's budget is being drastically slashed. I hope that the Governor will be working hard to restore SB 1008 because she is a supporter of healthy air.

Thank you for your time. I hope you are hearing from lots of concerned constituents like me today!"

### **ACTION TIMING**

**Our goal is to generate as many calls to people's own state senators and Governor Brown on Tuesday 4/18, Wednesday 4/19, and Thursday 4/20.** The reason is that the bill gutting occurred on Monday 4/17 and we want lawmakers to know that the calls are linked to the bill gutting. Also, it is our understanding that if we are to influence positive changes in the bill it will happen in the next 2 weeks, by Friday, 4/28. So, if you can't make a call this week, next week there is still time to make an impact.

### **SOCIAL MEDIA**

OPHA partner, Neighbors for Clean Air, has made a few memes to post around to update and ask your followers to take action. You'll find them on the NCA Facebook page where you can share them and download them. <https://www.facebook.com/neighborsforcleanair>

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