

Submitter: Alison Coluccio

On Behalf
Of:

Committee: House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water

Measure: HB2659

I write in strong opposition of HB2659's attempts to rollback the gains Oregon has made towards addressing greenhouse gas emissions and climate change in our state. As a resident of a lower income neighborhood directly abutting an industrial zone, my family, neighbors and I are subject to near constant "what's that smell?" vehicle and industrial pollution that very much affects our present-day health and quality of life. Looking to the future, with the wealth of scientific knowledge available, it is reckless not to do all in our power to make our cities more liveable and less destructive of the climate. Having seen the tactics of industry, which put their profits ahead of our lives, I do not trust industry to make the right call without legislation that steers them in the correct direction. Indeed, we have locally seen a company willfully violate current air quality legislation for decades, without concern for us, its neighbors, despite incurring fines. We can not assume companies will take correct action simply because it is the right thing to do. We can and need to take bold, future-oriented action like that of Governor Brown's Executive Order 20-04 and we need the tools now to enforce that action.