



Media Release

Monroe County Democratic Caucus

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For Immediate Release
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County Republicans Vote to Oppose Restricting Pollution in Monroe County

Rochester, New York – January 25, 2007: The Monroe County Legislature's Environment & Public Works Committee voted down a proposal by Legislator Travis Heider (D-Brighton) last evening that would have reduced the diesel soot pollution in Monroe County. In a 5 to 2 vote the committee refused to allow the measure to be brought before the full legislature.

"It is sad to see such an ignorant lack of regard for public health" said Legislator Bronson (D-Rochester). "This proposal was widely seen as a first step in reducing the effects of diesel soot emissions on the health of people throughout Monroe County."

The proposals aim was to :

- Establish an Idling Law to restrict the idling of diesel motor vehicle engines in Monroe County to no longer than three consecutive minutes when the vehicle is not in motion. Exceptions for this law would be if a vehicle is stopped in traffic, all emergency vehicles, such as fire trucks, or if weather conditions fall below 25 degrees Fahrenheit.
- Require that by the year 2012, 100% of County-owned, diesel fuel-powered motor vehicles utilize the best available retrofit technology or be equipped with an engine certified to the applicable 2007 US EPA standard for particulate matter.

Voting to restrict pollution

Travis Heider (D-Brighton)
Harry Bronson (D-Rochester)

Voting against restrictions on pollution

Mark Cassetti (R-Greece)
Stephen Tucciarello (R-Gates)
R. Anthony LaFountain (R-Penfield)
Jeff McCann (R-Greece)
Robert Colby (R-Ogden)

County Democrats have vowed to re-introduce the measure, but until then Monroe County will likely continue to lead the upstate region in diesel pollution.

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