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Project Directors Association

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AIR RESOURCES BOARD
CLERK OF THE BOARD

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January 19, 2006

Clerk of the Board
Air Resources Board
1001 I Street, 23rd Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Air Resource Board Members,

The Local Lead Agency Project Directors Association (LLAPDA) recently endorsed the proposal by the California Air Resources Board to classify environmental tobacco smoke (ETS) as a toxic air contaminant. These measures are vital to ensure the health of all Californians.

The LLAPDA is a statewide affiliation of Proposition 99 funded tobacco control programs in 58 California counties and three cities. Our members are the grassroots arm of tobacco control in California, and already seek to restrict ETS. Those efforts include working to achieve smoke-free parks, smoke-free beaches, smoke-free outdoor dining areas, etc. The classification of ETS as a toxic air contaminant will advance these efforts.

ETS is identified as a Class A carcinogen, according to the Environmental Protection Agency. Some of the effects of ETS include Sudden Infant Death Syndrome, increased asthma in children, lung cancer, nasal sinus cancer, heart attacks, spontaneous abortion, and cervical cancer. This is only a partial list, and new findings continue to link ETS to increased risk of disease.

It should be noted that your actions should be welcomed by the majority of Californians. A recent survey found both smokers (82.7 percent) and nonsmokers (92.9 percent) believe any exposure to ETS is harmful to one's health.

By classifying ETS as a toxic air contaminant, the Air Resources Board will help make California communities healthier and safer. We urge and support your adoption of this measure.

Sincerely,

Clara Boyden
President
Local Lead Agency Project Directors Association
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