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TJ MHS
KT Legal (AM/KO) SSD

R Sawyer
CEW
L Andreoni
Faxed

Government Relations Office
921 - 11th Street, Suite 700
Sacramento, CA 95814-2821
Phone: (916) 442-4446
[illegible] 916) 442-8585
v[illegible].californialung.org

AMERICAN LUNG ASSOCIATION®
of California

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OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN
AIR RESOURCES BOARD

January 20, 2006

The Honorable Robert F. Sawyer
Chair, California Air Resources Board
1001 I Street,
P.O. Box 2815
Sacramento, CA 95812

The mission of the **AMERICAN LUNG ASSOCIATION®** *of California* is to prevent lung disease and promote lung health.

Subject: Identification of ETS as a TAC -- SUPPORT

Dear Chairman Sawyer:

On behalf of the American Lung Association of California and its medical section, the California Thoracic Society, I urge the California Air Resources Board to adopt the proposed regulation identifying Environmental Tobacco Smoke as a Toxic Air Contaminant.

The American Lung Association believes that the report prepared by the CARB staff, which includes the adverse health impacts of exposure to secondhand smoke identified by the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment, provides the scientific case to identify ETS as a toxic air contaminant. The report, which was reviewed and approved by the Scientific Review Panel, found that exposure to ETS to be directly associated with a variety of adverse health outcomes involving developmental, respiratory, carcinogenic, and cardiovascular effects.

A Toxic Air Contaminant is defined in Health and Safety Code section 39655 as: "an air pollutant which may cause or contribute to an increase in mortality, in serious illness, or which may pose a present or potential hazard to human health." Based on the fact that there are more than 4000 chemicals in ETS, including 69 that are carcinogenic, the case is clear that ETS should be identified as a toxic air contaminant under California law.

While California has some of the most comprehensive local and state policies to reduce public exposure to environmental tobacco smoke, the American Lung Association believes that more can be done to further reduce exposures. The additional body of science developed by this report should only serve to encourage policy makers at the local and state level in California to consider action to further protect the public from exposure to secondhand smoke.

[illegible]roving Life,
One Breath at a Time

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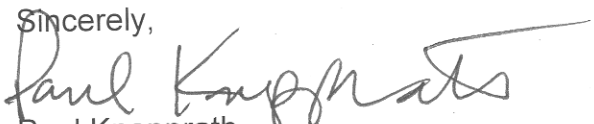
The American Lung Association applauds the California Air Resources Board and the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment for their leadership and significant contributions to the scientific evidence regarding the detrimental health effects and harms of environmental tobacco smoke.

For these reasons, the American Lung Association urges your adoption of the regulation identifying ETS as a TAC.

Please feel free to contact me, at (916) 442-4446, ext. 13 or pknepprath@alac.org if you have any questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,



Paul Knepprath
Vice President, Government Relations

cc. Members, California Air Resources Board
Catherine Witherspoon
Bonnie Holmes-Gen
Colleen Richardson, California Thoracic Society