

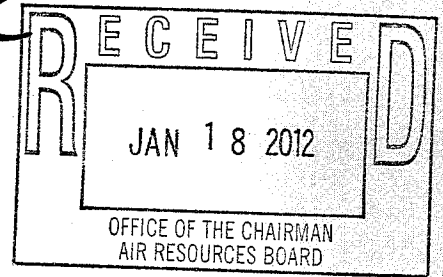
QueensCare

FAMILY CLINICS



January 12, 2012

Mary Nichols
Chairman, California Air Resources Board
1001 "T" Street
PO Box 2815
Sacramento, CA 95812



QueensCare Family Clinics (QFC) is writing to express our strong support of the California Clean Cars Campaign. QFC is a non-profit (501)(c)(3) safety-net community clinic organization with a rich history of service in Los Angeles County. Our mission is to provide quality primary healthcare that is accessible to any patient in need in the communities we serve, regardless of ability to pay. QFC's Pediatric Asthma Disease Management Program (PADM) and physicians care for thousands of children and adults with asthma and other respiratory conditions and have seen the devastating effects of air pollution in the Greater Los Angeles area.

We are deeply concerned about the poor health outcomes caused by air pollution that is driven largely by transportation emissions in California. Along with triggering asthma attacks, exposure to vehicle pollution contributes to new asthma cases, impairs lung function and development and contributes to respiratory and cardiac illnesses and even premature deaths. We are especially concerned about low-income communities and other vulnerable populations including seniors, children, and infants and those already suffering from lung, heart and other chronic diseases.

Strengthening California's groundbreaking clean car standards would reduce harmful tailpipe pollution from cars and light trucks, decreasing incidences of asthma attacks, heart and lung disease, respiratory emergency room visits, and cardio and respiratory hospitalizations. According to the American Lung Association, California could avoid at least \$7.2 billion annually in health and other societal costs if our entire fleet were converted to the next generation of cleaner, more efficient vehicles by 2025. We urge the California Air Resources Board to move forward this year to protect public health by enhancing California's Low Emission Vehicle (LEV) criteria pollutant and greenhouse gas regulations to reduce emissions from all new motor vehicles and by strengthening the state's Zero Emission Vehicle (ZEV) program.

We believe that the strongest possible motor vehicle emission standards are critically important for the health of Los Angeles residents and, as other states and federal government adopt California vehicle standards, for the health of all Americans.

Yours truly,

Barbara B. Hines
President & CEO