



January 23, 2012

Members of the California Air Resources Board  
CA Air Resources Board (CARB)  
P.O. Box 2815  
Sacramento, CA 95812

Chair Nichols and members of the board,

Regional Asthma Management and Prevention (RAMP) strongly supports the proposed Clean Cars Regulations. RAMP promotes strategies to reduce the burden of asthma through a broad and comprehensive approach. We know that proper clinical management of asthma must be combined with public policies that reduce exposure to asthma triggers. Because of the significant reduction in outdoor air pollution that these regulations promise, we support this effort to establish groundbreaking vehicle standards.

Advanced clean cars will clean up the air and protect public health. Despite progress in recent years, California is still home to some of the most polluted air in the country. Unhealthy air in the state is a significant factor contributing to the diagnosis of one in six children in California with asthma. Studies have shown that outdoor air pollutants are connected to reduced lung function, increased wheezing and coughing symptoms, increased hospitalization and Emergency Department visits, increased asthma medication use, and missed school days. The proposed vehicle and fuel standards will improve air quality by cutting pollution that contributes to smog by 75 percent from 2016 levels and advance the cleanest zero-emission cars. When fully implemented, California's standards could annually avoid hundreds of premature deaths, heart attacks, and emergency room visits, and thousands of asthma attacks and lost work and school days.

For decades, California has been a leader and served as a model for air pollution and vehicle standards. Californians want the state to maintain that leadership. RAMP strongly encourages the board to adopt these regulations.

Sincerely,

Anne Kelsey-Lamb, Director  
Regional Asthma Management and Prevention