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Assembly California Legislature



MARK DESAULNIER
ASSEMBLY MEMBER, ELEVENTH DISTRICT

COMMITTEES
RULES
TRANSPORTATION
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LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT
HUMAN SERVICES

June 14, 2007

Dr. Robert F. Sawyer
Chairman, California Air Resources Board
1001 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95812

Dear Dr. Sawyer:

As the State of California seizes its historic opportunity to stem the adverse affects of global warming, we must continue to weigh the socioeconomic implications of regulation.

As part of the Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 implementation process, the California Air Resources Board is currently considering opportunities for carbon-reducing early action.

I commend the Board's efforts to advance measures that will yield cost effective, technologically-feasible emissions reductions. However, I, much like the Board's Environmental Justice Advisory Committee, am concerned by the potential imposition of an undue economic burden on lower- and fixed-income citizens.

In particular, the early action item that would propose to ban the retail sale of automotive air conditioning refrigerant may disproportionately affect those who are likely to rely upon home-based auto repair and stop-gap repair options.

To the extent that a possible retail sales ban on automotive refrigerant will disproportionately impact low-income communities who cannot afford professional service, I urge the consideration of possible regulatory alternatives that will yield similar reductions, but have less impact on the economic stability of our most vulnerable Californians.

Thank you for your diligent service in making California a leader in climate change.

Sincerely,


MARK DESAULNIER

6/19/07 ORIGINAL:

Copies:

Board Clerk
Executive Officer
Chair
R. Oglesby