

STATE CAPITOL
P.O. BOX 942849
SACRAMENTO, CA 94249-0058
(916) 319-2058
FAX 916-319-2158

DISTRICT OFFICE
8255 FIRESTONE BLVD, SUITE 203
DOWNEY, CA 90241
(562) 861-5803
FAX (562) 861-5158



COMMITTEES
BANKING AND FINANCE
BUDGET
ENVIRONMENT SAFETY AND TOXIC
MATERIALS
NATURAL RESOURCES
UTILITIES AND ENERGY
WATER, PARKS AND WILDLIFE

CHAIR, BUDGET SUBCOMMITTEE # 5
ON PUBLIC SAFETY

California Air Resources Board
1001 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95814
Re: Request for Assistance

To the California Air Resources Board Members,

I am writing to express my support for Heart of Compassion Distribution to receive an HVIP grant and an exemption to purchase a 2018 BYD truck with an electric motor and a refrigerated box. The HVIP vouchers can only be used towards vehicles manufactured in the last 2 years; however, Heart of Compassion found a heavily discounted 2018 BYD electric truck that fits their budget. CARB funding would make this the first vehicle to help them convert to zero-emission. Heart of Compassion Distribution is a 501(c)3 nonprofit food bank, Tax ID 42-1573926, assisting those in need since 2003. Their mission is to be a lighthouse of volunteers fighting poverty and restoring hope. Their current twice-weekly food distributions impact families and individuals in multiple cities across LA County, including, but not limited to, Whittier, Norwalk, Downey, Santa Fe Springs, and Los Angeles. They also distribute weekly to smaller food pantries and other organizations across the county.

During Fiscal Year 20-21, they were able to distribute more than \$44 million worth of food, PPE, cleaning supplies, and other household necessities to those in need. Most recently, Heart of Compassion and its amazing volunteers hosted a Thanksgiving Dinner and distribution event where families received warm food, brand new winter coats, holiday games, and a turkey for their family dinner. My constituents of Norwalk, Downey, Montebello, Pico Rivera, Commerce, and Bell Gardens could not be any more grateful for Heart of Compassion and its efforts to help those in need. We are honored to partner with Heart of Compassion for several events over the years and most recently a Thanksgiving event.

Transportation, freight, and logistics are a core part of Heart of Compassion's operations to pick up and drop off food and other resources. Besides goods and items, they have worked to minimize their environmental footprint by recycling cardboard and plastics, and by having an onsite compost pile to divert additional refuse from the landfills. The community I serve has historically experienced environmental injustices which fostered the idea behind AB 617. AB 617 demands more resources for disadvantaged communities and better air standards. The BYD truck Heart of Compassion is requesting funding for would allow their work around their community to not come at the cost of their community's health.

We have all been extraordinarily impacted by the high cost of fuel. Heart of Compassion has received a \$350,000 grant from the South Coast Air Quality Management District to

STATE CAPITOL
P.O. BOX 942849
SACRAMENTO, CA 94249-0058
(916) 319-2058
FAX 916-319-2158

DISTRICT OFFICE
8255 FIRESTONE BLVD, SUITE 203
DOWNEY, CA 90241
(562) 861-5803
FAX (562) 861-5158



CRISTINA GARCIA
ASSEMBLYMEMBER, FIFTY-EIGHTH DISTRICT
CHAIR, LEGISLATIVE WOMEN'S CAUCUS

COMMITTEES
BANKING AND FINANCE
BUDGET
ENVIRONMENT SAFETY AND TOXIC
MATERIALS
NATURAL RESOURCES
UTILITIES AND ENERGY
WATER, PARKS AND WILDLIFE

CHAIR, BUDGET SUBCOMMITTEE # 5
ON PUBLIC SAFETY

purchase electric TRU-equipped trailers. They want to transition from diesel and gas-fueled bobtail trucks to an electric fleet, which would not only be more cost-efficient but also beneficial for the environment as they make their many donation pickups and deliveries to disadvantaged communities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in purple ink that reads "Cristina Garcia". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Cristina" being more prominent than the last name "Garcia".

CRISTINA GARCIA
CHAIR, LEGISLATIVE WOMEN'S CAUCUS
ASSEMBLYMEMBER, 58TH DISTRICT