

Nancy Skinner

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Assembly
 California Legislature



NANCY SKINNER
 ASSEMBLYMEMBER, FOURTEENTH DISTRICT

June 25th, 2009

Chairman Mary Nichols
 California Air Resources Board,
 1001 I Street, 2nd Floor
 Sacramento, CA 95812

Dear Chairman Nichols:

As a member of the Legislature and Chair of the Natural Resources committee I congratulate the Air Resources Board for your inclusion in the scoping plan of the "Cool Cars" regulations. Today you are considering regulations specific to car windows with the goal of achieving windows & coatings that will keep the interior of our cars cooler, which will reduce greenhouse gases and traditional pollutants from the use of car air conditioning. This is a step in the right direction and the reduction of pollutants from this source is as valuable as equivalent reductions from car tailpipes and stationary sources.

Because the challenge of climate change is so great, we must search under every stone to find solutions to this problem.

While I will leave the technical decisions to the experts of the ARB, I write to suggest a few considerations:

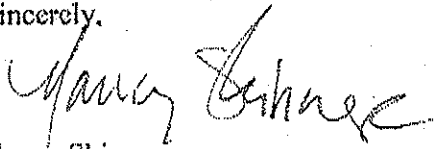
- **Early Action.** We know now that actions to reduce GHGs now are more valuable than actions taken later, due primarily to the atmospheric lifetime of GHGs. This understanding was built into the framework of AB 32, and we see CARBS's response to it in the form of both the discrete and non-discrete early actions. Recognizing that Cool Cars item is an early action, I urge the Board to pay special consideration to the timeline of implementation of this measure.
- **The Legal Standard.** While other environmental statutes may provide a great degree of latitude for administrative agencies in enacting regulations, the Legislature spoke with fortitude and courage when it asked CARB to regulate in a manner that yields the maximum technologically feasible reductions that are cost effective. While regulations on car windows will have up-front costs, the

technologies are available, affordable & cost effective. As such I would urge you to consider an "all-around solar reflective" standard that would increase the cooling effect & thus achieve a greater reduction in air conditioning need & thus a greater potential improvement in emission reduction.

- The Precedent of Today. As this is one of the first arrays of regulations being considered to implement AB 32, I urge you to act with the knowledge that what you do today affects proceedings down the road.

Thank you for your efforts to advance AB 32's noble goals. And congratulations to the Air Resources Board, for leading the nation yet again in ensuring that vehicles are compatible with our ongoing protection of the environment.

Sincerely,



Nancy Skinner
Assemblymember 14th District