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California State Senate

SENATOR
FRAN PAVLEY

TWENTY-THIRD SENATE DISTRICT



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NATURAL RESOURCES & WATER
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ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
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December 8, 2009

The Honorable Mary D. Nichols
Chairman, California Air Resources Board
1001 I Street
Sacramento CA 95812

Dear Chairman Nichols:

I am writing to strongly support the Statewide Truck and Bus Regulation to reduce public exposure to diesel soot, and to urge the California Air Resources Board not to weaken or delay implementation of this and other vital public health-based rules adopted by the Board. Opponents of these regulations are using the current state of the economy as a reason for delay or inaction on this and other important environmental initiatives, but environmental and public health regulations have absolutely nothing to do with the current difficulties we are facing in the economy, and weakening these rules will neither create jobs nor lessen the severity of the economic crisis. Any delays or diminishment of these vital regulations will only create even greater cost pressures to our health care system- costs we are struggling to control at both the state and federal level.

Given the severe air quality problems faced by California, and the financial hardships placed upon California residents who live with health problems caused or worsened by diesel pollution, regulations like the Statewide Truck and Bus Regulation are extremely important. If we are serious about cleaning up California's air, saving money, and saving lives, we must significantly reduce pollution from diesel trucks. CARB's diesel truck rule will ensure we meet our clean air commitments, save billions of dollars, and protect California families.

Sincerely,

Fran Pavley

Senator Fran Pavley
23rd Senate District

cc: Members of California Air Resources Board