



County of Yolo

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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Tobacco Education Program
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The Honorable Robert F. Sawyer
Chair, California Air Resources Board
1001 I Street,
P.O. Box 2815
Sacramento, CA 95812

XC: Board Members 06-1-4
Chairman CEW 1/26/05
TJ MHS
KT Legal (AM/KO) SSD

Dear Mr. Sawyer:

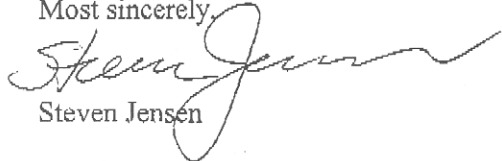
I am writing on behalf of the Yolo County Health Department Tobacco Prevention Program urging the Air Resources Board adopt the proposed identification of Environmental Tobacco Smoke as a Toxic Air Contaminant (TAC).

The hazardous health effects of exposure to secondhand smoke are now well-documented and established in various independent research studies and numerous national and international reports. The body of scientific evidence is overwhelming: there is no doubt within the scientific community that secondhand smoke causes heart disease, lung cancer, nasal sinus cancer, sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS), asthma and middle ear infections in children and various other respiratory illnesses. We know secondhand smoke causes or exacerbates a wide range of adverse health effects, including cancer, respiratory infections, and asthma.

As a program of the local health department, we receive calls from many Yolo County residents about the health effects they suffer from exposure to secondhand smoke in their homes and at work. We also receive calls from concerned parents of asthmatic children inquiring how they can further protect their children from secondhand smoke. The proposed action by the Air Resources Board would serve local communities well by providing another tool to improve the regulations around secondhand smoke and minimizing people's exposure to its harmful effects.

The dangers of Environmental Tobacco Smoke (ETS) cannot be ignored. Californians must be protected and informed. The proposed action by the Air Resources Board would serve our state well.

Most sincerely,


Steven Jensen

