

Julian Cañete  
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**Julian Canete**  
**California Hispanic Chamber of Commerce**  
**Low Carbon Fuel Standard**  
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My name is Julian Canete and I chair the External Affairs Committee of the California Hispanic Chambers of Commerce. We are the largest regional Hispanic business organization, representing over 65 Hispanic chambers and business associations.

We have long been concerned about the cost impacts of AB 32 implementation, especially on the 600,000 Hispanic-owned businesses in California. It looks like the rule you are considering today validates that concern.

Once again we're being told that this won't cost much, if anything. But independent research, and even one of your own peer reviewers, have concluded that your staff report was based on selective or questionable assumptions and that this rule indeed will be very expensive. This calls to mind the economic analysis for your AB 32 Scoping Plan, which the Legislative Analyst and your own panel of independent reviewers found to be seriously flawed and to have greatly underestimated the costs.

Our members are among the hardest working small businesses in California. They are the ones who are affected first and hardest during hard times. And the hard times are here. Our small business members are struggling to keep their doors open and to meet payroll without having to lay off workers. They are concerned about the environment, but they are more concerned about paying the bills, staying in business and supporting their families.

Your staff is worried about furloughs – our members and their employees are worried about losing their businesses, jobs and benefits.

It seems to me this very important, very human element has been completely lost as you rush to adopt a rule that you haven't fully evaluated and that could impose unsupportable financial burdens on hundreds of thousands of small businesses and families.

Yes – come up with a Low Carbon Fuel Standard, but take the time to do get all the facts and do it right. Don't overlook the necessary balance between the environment and the economy. We respectfully ask that you postpone taking action on this item until the true costs are known, considered and undergo reasonable public scrutiny.

Thank you.