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Assembly  
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November 23, 2009

The Honorable Arnold Schwarzenegger  
Governor  
State of California  
First Floor, State Capitol  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Schwarzenegger:

The negative consequences associated with the on-road diesel truck and bus regulations adopted by the California Air Resources Board (CARB) last December are real and have significantly and detrimentally impacted our State's agricultural sector, trucking and transportation industries and economy.

Let me be clear. I fully support the State of California taking regulatory action to reduce NOx and particulate matter emissions from on-road diesel trucks and buses. However, the State must implement these regulations in a thoughtful manner that ensures environmental and economic balance.

Implementing the on-road diesel truck and bus regulations now - as currently envisioned by CARB - will put many small farmers, truckers and transportation companies out of business. These sectors, which have been hit hard by the State's recession, have had difficulty accessing capital to retrofit or replace their on-road diesel trucks and buses. They also have largely been unsuccessful in accessing Prop 1B bond monies that were originally awarded for these purposes, as these funds are not available.

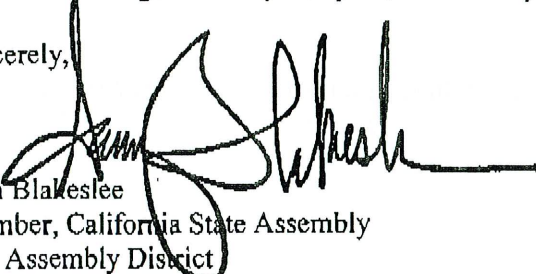
Given the multi-billion dollar costs associated with the implementing these regulations, and the current volatile economic environment, I urge CARB to delay implementing the on-road diesel truck and bus regulations for one year, followed by a one year stay of enforcement. This delay will allow businesses more time to prepare to comply with the proposed regulations and to get back on their feet. This proposed delay will also allow the State to resolve questions about the accuracy of the economic analysis, and evaluate if/how these regulations should be altered to achieve a more balanced approach that protects our state's environment and economy.

California's environment and economy are interdependent and one cannot be held in higher position than the other. As lawmakers and regulators, we must be thoughtful about how we implement all new state policies. My voting record in the State Assembly reflects the great consideration I give to the environment. However, these dire economic times remind us that economic prosperity and responsible resource stewardship are mutually reinforcing. A strong and successful economy provides the flexibility to incorporate advanced technologies and improved operational practices that result in cleaner water and air. Similarly, the presence of abundant and healthy natural resources provides the ongoing basis for economic prosperity.

I am gravely concerned that if CARB overreaches in implementing the on-road diesel truck and bus regulations, it could take years for California's agricultural and transportation sectors to recover. With California now facing 12.5% unemployment, working families and the businesses that employ them cannot afford anything less than a well substantiated and balanced regulatory strategy.

For the reasons outlined above, I respectfully request that the State delay implementing its on-road diesel truck and bus regulations by one year, followed by a one-year stay of enforcement.

Sincerely,



Sam Blakeslee  
Member, California State Assembly  
33<sup>rd</sup> Assembly District