

Julian Canete

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**California Air Resources Board/Clean Fuel Outlet Regulation**

My name is Julian Canete, and I'm President and CEO of the California Hispanic Chambers of Commerce.

The California Hispanic Chamber believes this rule is seriously flawed and should not be amended, it should be eliminated.

First, we believe that this agency's authority does not extend to compelling ANY private business or company to provide infrastructure for, or to offer for sale, any product it does not wish to sell. If implemented this regulation will send a chilling message to every business in this state, creating an even less attractive business climate than we already have.

Second, our members, like small businesses throughout the state, are still suffering from the effects of the recession. Business is down, costs are up, and access to capital is a huge problem. Government is asking us to pay even more in taxes at a time we can least afford it. Consumers are facing similar challenges in their own families.

We are already experiencing or facing significant increases in energy costs due to regulations like the renewable portfolio standard, cap and trade, and the pending low carbon fuel standard. The millions of dollars in costs from the Clean Fuel Outlet rule will inevitably be passed along to consumers and businesses as well, adding to this burden.

Yet this regulation would be a windfall for companies that sell hydrogen fuel and hydrogen vehicles without having to pay for a delivery system for their product, and for the handful of elite consumers who can already afford a hydrogen car.

There is also no reasonable assurance that those cars or fuels will be commercially available, and no evidence that there will be an environmental benefit.

This regulation is like forcing a multi-million dollar, non-refundable bet on a horse that may not even be in the race.

Our businesses, our communities and our state's economy can't afford that kind of gamble. We respectfully suggest that you look for other, more justifiable means of reaching your emissions reductions goals.

Thank you.