

April 20, 2004

Alan Lloyd, Ph.D.  
Chairman  
California Air Resources Board  
1001 I Street  
Sacramento, CA 95812

**SUBJECT: Support Strong Regulations To Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions**

Dear Chairman Lloyd:

As public health representatives and organizations concerned about improving public health and quality of life in California, we urge you to adopt the strongest possible regulations to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from motor vehicles pursuant to AB 1493 (Pavley). As you are aware, global warming threatens California's health, environment, and quality of life. We believe it is extremely important for California to lead the way in addressing the problem of global warming, just as the state has been a global leader in the development of new automotive and fuel technologies to reduce smog and toxic emissions.

California already has the worst air quality in the country and higher temperatures from global warming are expected to worsen this situation. Higher temperatures contribute to formation of ground level ozone, a key constituent of smog. In addition, hotter temperatures lead to increases in emissions of ozone pre-cursors and toxic air contaminants from increased energy production, increased electricity demand, increased evaporation of pollutants from cars and fueling stations, as well as other pollution sources that worsen under hot conditions.

Elevated smog levels cause serious health damage, including damage to lung tissue and reduced lung function, asthma attacks, worsening of lung diseases like emphysema and bronchitis and increased hospitalizations for cardiac and respiratory illnesses. Given California's already high asthma rates, especially among children, the state must do everything possible to reduce pollution emissions and address the global warming problem.

Passenger cars and trucks represent the largest source of global warming pollution in California, accounting for approximately 40 percent of the state's global warming emissions. Reducing greenhouse gases from the vehicle fleet, as required by AB 1493, will not only help slow global warming, but will also help reduce other air pollution problems. An important byproduct of the proposed regulations will be reduced emissions of harmful air pollutants from the transportation, delivery and sale of gasoline due to reduced petroleum use. According to a recent study, these "upstream" emissions are a significant part of transportation related pollution, and are expected to account for up to 25% of vehicle related emissions by 2020.

We encourage the California Air Resources Board to adopt the strongest possible regulations to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from motor vehicles. We believe that California's Governor, Legislature, and other public officials should solidly support such regulations to protect the health of all Californians.

For further information, please feel free to contact Vandana Bali at 415-775-1065 or [vbali@alac.org](mailto:vbali@alac.org), or Bonnie Holmes-Gen at 916-442-4446 or [bhgen@alac.org](mailto:bhgen@alac.org).

Sincerely,



Ben Abate, Ph.D.  
President & CEO  
American Lung Association of California



Tom Riley  
Director, Government Relations  
California Academy of Family Physicians




Timothy A. Morris, MD  
President  
California Thoracic Society



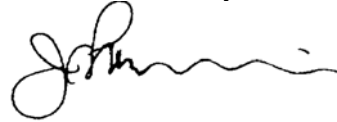
David Pepper, MD  
Medical Alliance for Healthy Air



Alex Sherriffs, MD  
Chair, Community Health Committee  
Fresno-Madera Medical Society




Robert Black, MD  
Chair, Committee on State Government Affairs  
American Academy of Pediatrics, California District IX



John C. Lewin, MD  
Executive Vice President/CEO  
California Medical Association



Bruce Pomer  
Executive Director  
Health Officers Association of California



Ann Kelsey Lamb, MPH  
Director  
Regional Asthma Management and Prevention Initiative