



April 22, 2021

The Honorable Lorena Gonzalez
 Chair, Assembly Committee on Appropriations
 State Capitol, Room 2114
 Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: AB 1261 (Burke): CARB: greenhouse gas emissions: incentive programs – SUPPORT

Dear Chair Gonzalez:

On behalf of the above business organizations in the Inland Empire, we write to express our support for AB 1261, which would require the California Air Resources Board (CARB) to develop and apply specified measurement and evaluation criteria to its incentive programs connected to greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction goals, as recently recommended by the State Auditor.

Over the past 15 years, the legislature, and Governors, both past and present, have set forth aggressive greenhouse gas emissions goals for the state; relying heavily on CARB to implement regulations and incentives to help reach those goals. In so doing, CARB has spent a portion of the \$2 billion raised from the greenhouse gas reduction fund to implement and incentivize these programs. Unfortunately, based on the auditor’s findings, the benefits both to the state’s goals and local communities remains unclear.

Given the state’s ambitious goals and limited funding, we agree with the State Auditor that, “the State needs more accurate program measurement to guide its greenhouse gas investments and

increase the chances of meeting its greenhouse gas goals.” Without accurate and validated data, the legislature has no way of knowing if funding is being spent on the right programs and benefitting disadvantaged communities as is required by statute.

Especially troubling was the revelation that in 2016, 80% of the \$42 million required to be spent in disadvantaged communities took place outside of those communities. This is an unacceptable outcome that must be remedied. AB 1261 helps to do that by ensuring that the most critical recommendations are actioned, and that the legislature has oversight into the funding it is allocating to CARB to implement these incentive programs.

For these reasons and others, we urge you to support AB 1261. If you have any questions or would like to discuss our position in greater detail, please contact Luis Portillo at 909-944-2201 or by email at lportillo@ieep.com. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Bette Rader Beaumont Chamber of Commerce	Ellen Clarke Big Bear Chamber of Commerce	Zeb Welborn Chino Valley Chamber of Commerce
Bobby Spiegel Corona Chamber of Commerce	Andrea De Leon Fontana Chamber of Commerce	Joshua Bonner Greater Coachella Valley Chamber of Commerce
Mark Creffield Greater High Desert Chamber of Commerce	Peggi Hazlett Greater Ontario Business Council	Cyndi Lemke Hemet San Jacinto Chamber of Commerce
Chris Nielsen Highland Chamber of Commerce	Paul Granillo Inland Empire Economic Partnership	Maneesha Jones Menifee Valley Chamber of Commerce

Oscar Valdepeña Moreno Valley Chamber of Commerce	Patrick Ellis Murrieta/Wildomar Chamber of Commerce	Ignacio Valdivia Perris Valley Chamber of Commerce
Monique Manzanares Pomona Chamber of Commerce	Robert Hufnagel Rancho Cucamonga Chamber of Commerce	John Mills Redlands Chamber of Commerce
Emily Falappino Temecula Valley Chamber of Commerce	Peggy Robertson Upland Chamber of Commerce	

Cc: Assembly Member Autumn Burke