











July 19, 2022

The Honorable Anthony Portantino, Chair Senate Appropriations Committee State Capitol, Room 412 Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: Support for Assembly Bill 2836 (E. Garcia), Carl Moyer Clean Air Program

Dear Chair Portantino and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of the undersigned health and medical organizations, we are writing to express our support for Assembly Bill 2836 (E. Garcia). This legislation would extend the authorization of highly effective Carl Moyer Clean Air Standards Attainment Program ("Moyer Program") and AB 923 Clean Air Incentive Program ("AB 923 program") funding for the clean-up of harmful air pollution in California.

Despite decades of progress, California still faces the most difficult air pollution challenges in the United States. The American Lung Association's annual <u>State of the Air</u> reports continue to rank California cities at the top of the lists of communities most impacted by unhealthy levels of ozone and/or particle pollution. These pollutants contribute to a wide range of negative health outcomes including asthma attacks, heart attacks and thousands of premature deaths annually in California. Further, lower-income communities, communities of color, children and seniors and those living with lung diseases are most vulnerable and most in need of strong programs to clean our air. The transportation sector is the dominant source of harmful air pollution in California, and clean air incentive programs provide critical funding to reduce the health burdens of polluted air in coordination with strong clean air rules.

The Moyer and AB 923 programs were developed decades ago, and most recently re-authorized by the Legislature under Assembly Bill 8 (Perea, 2013) through the current program sunset of January 1, 2024. AB 2836 would extend the authorization of this lifesaving clean air program to January 1, 2034. These two cost-effective, voluntary programs are primarily locally operated by air districts and address local conditions and priorities. Together, they have retrofitted or replaced approximately 67,000 engines and cut over 198,000 tons of ozone-forming emissions and over 7,300 tons of cancer-causing diesel particle pollution. These reductions translate into meaningful health benefits and reduced impacts in communities throughout California. Continuing to implement these programs will provide support for meeting health-protective National Ambient Air Quality Standards for ozone and particle pollution, while also reducing local emissions.

Because of the complementary role that incentive programs play to strong clean air programs at the local, state and national level, we strongly urge your support for continued authorization of the Moyer and AB 923 programs in support of clean air in California.

Please contact Will Barrett at William.Barrett@Lung.org or (916) 585-7663 with any questions.

Sincerely,

Will Barrett

**American Lung Association** 

Linda Rudolph, MD

**Center for Climate Change and Health** 

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