



September 17, 2021

Honorable Gavin Newsom
Governor, State of California
State Capitol, First Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Request for Signature AB 1346 (Berman, Gonzalez) – Small Off-Road Engines

Dear Governor Newsom:

On behalf of the undersigned public health organizations, we write to express our support for Assembly Bill 1346 (Berman and Gonzalez), which would support the transition to zero-emission landscaping and other small off-road engines (SORE).

Signing AB 1346 will support your Executive Order No. N-79-20 to transition small off-road engines to 100 percent zero-emissions equipment by 2035. The bill supports the transition equipment to currently available zero-emission technology. SORE emit more smog-forming pollutants than current on-road passenger vehicles, and emissions are expected to increase in the decade ahead as emission controls have not kept pace with available technologies.

The American Lung Association's [State of the Air 2021](#) report found that California is home to seven of the ten most ozone-polluted cities in the United States and six of the ten most impacted by particle pollution. California's poor air quality has a negative impact on vulnerable populations and communities of color. Negative health outcomes associated with unhealthy air include asthma and heart attacks, lung cancer, and thousands of premature deaths annually in California. Signing AB 1346 will add to California's efforts to protect the public from the harmful effects of air and climate pollution.

AB 1346 would require the California Air Resources Board (CARB) to adopt cost-effective and technologically feasible regulations by July 1, 2022 to prohibit engine exhaust and evaporative emissions from new SORE equipment as of January 1, 2024. The bill would also require CARB to identify and, to the extent feasible, make available rebates and incentive funding to support the transition to zero-emission SORE operations. Implementing AB 1346 is also supported by an allocation of \$30 million from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (GGRF) included in the FY 2021 - 22 budget bill (SB 170, Skinner) to CARB for incentives for SORE zero-emission incentives equipment.

For these reasons, our organizations request that you sign AB 1346 to support state and local clean air and climate efforts. Please contact Will Barrett at william.barrett@lung.org with any questions.

Sincerely,

Catherine Dodd PhD, RN, Policy Advisor
Alliance of Nurses for Healthy Environments

Will Barrett, Senior Director, Clean Air Advocacy
American Lung Association

Kevin Hamilton, RRT, Co-Founder and Co-Director
Central California Asthma Collaborative

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