



August 26, 2024

The Honorable Lori Wilson, Chair
Assembly Transportation Committee
1020 N Street, Suite 112
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Assembly Bill 1122: Commercial Harbor Craft - Oppose

Dear Chair Wilson and members of the Committee:

The undersigned health and medical organizations write in opposition to Assembly Bill 1122 (AB 1122). AB 1122 would provide for exemptions and delayed implementation of an important public health program related to Commercial Harbor Craft (CHC).

Californians face the most difficult air pollution challenges in the United States, with six of the ten most polluted cities in the United States and 98 percent of Californians living in communities with unhealthy air pollution. Breathing air pollution can contribute to a wide range of health emergencies, including asthma attacks, heart attacks and stroke, lung cancer and premature death. These health emergencies are often concentrated in communities of color and lower-income communities nearest major sources of diesel exhaust, including from harbor craft.

AB 1122 would delay certain requirements for towing CHCs under the regulation adopted by the California Air Resources Board in 2021 following years of public process with significant involvement by industry, CHC operators, and other stakeholders. AB 1122 would also require diesel particulate filters (DPF) on certain CHCs to include an override safety system with reporting requirements for operation in this mode. These and many other provisions allowing for safety, extensions, and technology readiness are already included in the CHC regulation, but this legislation would limit the CARB's discretion to implement this critical clean air rule.

The CHC rule is critical for attainment of federal air quality standards, reducing exposure to smog-forming emissions, and carcinogenic diesel exhaust on a phased and practical schedule with many flexibilities incorporated into the rule. For these reasons, our organizations oppose AB 1122. Please contact Will Barrett at William.Barrett@Lung.org for additional information.

Thank you,

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

Joel Ervice, Associate Director
Regional Asthma Management & Prevention (RAMP)

Robert M. Gould, MD, President
San Francisco Bay Physicians for Social Responsibility