

AMERICAN LUNG ASSOCIATION® Fighting for Air

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Dear Senator:

The American Lung Association urges you to support protecting the public health from air pollution and to stand firm against the onslaught of attacks on the Clean Air Act. The House of Representatives sided with big polluters last week by passing the TRAIN Act (H.R.2401) - **the single greatest roll-back of Clean Air Act protections in history**—including amendments that strike at the heart of the protective health standards required by the Clean Air Act. If this bill ever became law, air pollution health standards would no longer be based solely on science.

Additionally, the TRAIN Act would indefinitely delay the EPA's proposal to reduce mercury and other air toxics from power plants. It would also block implementation of the Cross-State Air Pollution Rule, a rule that will prevent the premature deaths of thousands of Americans each year by reducing dangerous smog and soot pollution that travels hundreds of miles across state boundaries polluting downwind communities who are otherwise powerless to protect themselves from this dangerous pollution. We urge you to speak out against this measure now and work to defeat it in the Senate.

The TRAIN Act is just the first in a series of misguided attacks on public health. Next week in the House, we expect votes on two additional bills (H.R. 2250 and H.R. 2861) that would indefinitely delay critical Clean Air Act protections to reduce mercury and other toxic air pollution from industrial facilities and cement plants. Legislation that blocks, delays or weakens the Clean Air Act only tightens the deadly death grip pollution has on our nation's health.

The Clean Air Act has a long legacy of protecting public health and reducing health care costs for all by preventing thousands of adverse health outcomes, including: cancer, asthma attacks, strokes, emergency department visits, hospitalizations and premature deaths. A rigorous, peer reviewed analysis, *The Benefits and Costs of the Clean Air Act from 1990 to 2020*, conducted by EPA, found that the air quality improvements under the Clean Air Act will save \$2 trillion by 2020 and prevent at least 230,000 deaths annually.

These shameless polluter-driven efforts to undermine the Clean Air Act will undoubtedly expose communities across the country to increased air pollution, so we urge you to oppose all efforts to weaken, delay or block implementation of this vital public health law and to speak out publicly in defense of the fundamental human right to breathe healthy air.

Sincerely,



Charles D. Connor
President & CEO