



May 7, 2025

The Honorable Buffy Wicks, Chair
 Assembly Appropriations Committee
 1020 N Street, Room 8220
 Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Health Support for Assembly Bill 914 (R. Garcia), the Pollution Hotspots Solution Act

Dear Chair Wicks and members of the committee:

On behalf of the undersigned health and medical organizations, we are writing to express our support for Assembly Bill 914 (R. Garcia), the Pollution Hotspots Solution Act. AB 914 is designed to reduce costly emissions from pollution magnets, such as ports and warehouses through a statewide program known as an Indirect Source Rule (ISR).

The American Lung Association's "State of the Air" 2024 report shows that over 90 percent of Californians live in communities impacted by unhealthy levels of air pollution, with six California cities ranking on the top 10 list for the worst ozone and particle pollution in the United States. Breathing ozone and particle pollution can contribute to costly health emergencies such as asthma attacks, heart attacks and stroke, developmental and prenatal harm, and premature death. Breathing particle pollution can cause lung cancer and a range of other health impacts.

Transportation sources, and diesel engines in particular, are leading contributors to community health impacts, including early death due to lung cancer, heart disease, the onset of asthma in children and adults and the increased risk of respiratory infections in children. Transportation sources drawn to indirect sources of pollution like warehouses, ports and railyards deliver heavy doses of carcinogenic diesel exhaust to residents on a daily basis. To address the impacts posed by these pollution magnets, several local ISR policies have been developed. AB 914 simply recognizes the need for a statewide baseline of community health protection envisioned in these regional programs.

AB 914 clarifies California's statewide authority to implement ISR and directs the California Air Resources Board to establish and enforce rules related to indirect sources of pollution, to establish reporting requirements, and set fee schedules needed to implement the program. The law will build on the success of previously adopted - and forthcoming - regional ISRs, ensuring consultation with local air districts to complement local emission control needs. The bill would also prioritize controls for indirect sources that contribute to high-level, localized concentrations of pollutants in disadvantaged, low-income, and high-poverty communities. AB 914 will advance emission reduction needs for communities impacted by major pollution hubs, such as those that attract large volumes of diesel exhaust.

We strongly urge you to support AB 914 (R. Garcia) and vote "yes" because California needs all the tools available to reduce costly pollution and deliver cleaner air to breathe. If you have any questions, please contact William Barrett at William.Barrett@Lung.org.

Sincerely,

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