



September 25, 2023

Governor Gavin Newsom
1021 O Street, Suite 9000
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: AB 126 (Reyes and Gonzalez) – Reauthorization of Clean Transportation Funding

Dear Governor Newsom:

On behalf of the American Lung Association, we are writing to thank you for your leadership in negotiations to secure passage of Assembly Bill 126 (Reyes and Gonzalez) to ensure reauthorization of critical clean air funding in California. We urge you to sign this bill into law to ensure ongoing progress in California's path to delivering clean air and a healthy climate to all communities.

Despite decades of progress, California continues to face major pollution challenges and the transportation sector is a leading reason why. Communities throughout the state rank among the most polluted in the nation in the Lung Association's annual State of the Air report, and 98 percent of Californians live in a community impacted by ozone and/or particle pollution. Climate change is making the job of cleaning our air more difficult and puts hard-fought progress at risk. Ozone, particle pollution and diesel exhaust associated with transportation pollution contribute to a wide range of health emergencies including asthma attacks, heart attacks and stroke and premature death. These burdens are felt more acutely in lower-income communities, communities of color, by children, seniors and those more vulnerable due to health challenges.

Assembly Bill 126 would extend lifesaving clean air programs to ensure ongoing deployment of clean vehicle technologies and infrastructure, with strong requirements to ensure the equitable distribution of the benefits of zero-emission technologies and alternative mobility options. The Lung Association's own research highlights the incredible benefits of meeting your bold vision for zero-emission technologies laid out in Executive Orders and regulatory actions to ensure this transition. By 2050, the widespread shift to zero-emission cars, buses and trucks and non-combustion electricity could generate over \$169 billion in public health benefit in California, saving 15,300 lives, avoiding 440,000 asthma attacks and 2.2 million lost workdays due to reduced pollution.

We thank you for your leadership in advancing Assembly Bill 126 and urge you to sign this bill into law without delay. Please contact Will Barrett at william.barrett@lung.org with any questions or for more information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Will Barrett". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Will" and last name "Barrett" clearly legible.

Will Barrett
National Senior Director
Clean Air Advocacy