

## Protect Public Health, Our Economy and Our Ports

### ► Support the Ports Investment Bill - SB 974

#### Public Health

The Air Resources Board estimates that 3,700 Californians die prematurely each year due to pollution from the ports and freight transportation.<sup>1</sup>

The state also says this pollution leads to:

- 2,830 additional hospital admissions
- 360,000 sick days for workers
- 1.1 million missed school days for children in California.<sup>2</sup>

#### Congestion Relief

Traffic congestion creates enormous economic and logistical hardships. Congestion cost California more than \$14.6 billion in 2005.<sup>3</sup>



#### Invest in a Strong Future for California

California's ports are vital to our economy.<sup>4</sup> Cleaning them up is vital to our health.

Trade is expected to triple in less than 20 years. This cargo travels on ships, trains and trucks that release toxic and smog-forming pollution. Without *cleaner technology and infrastructure improvements*, the California freight transportation system may not be equipped to handle the increased trade.<sup>5</sup>

SB 974, authored by Senator Alan Lowenthal, provides the necessary funding to protect public health and our ports.

Support a plan to collect \$30 from each 20-foot-equivalent shipping container at the ports of Los Angeles, Long Beach and Oakland.

Revenue from SB 974 would go equally towards:

- (1) specific infrastructure needs to reduce congestion and air pollution. These projects include improving railroad crossings and removing heavy trucks from streets and freeways.
- (2) available technologies to reduce air pollution and protect public health.

#### Take Action!

Please contact  
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<sup>1</sup> California Environmental Protection Agency. "Methodology for Estimating Premature Deaths Associated with Long-Term Exposures to Fine Airborne Particulate Matter in California," March 23, 2008. page 38. Stat estimate goes as high as 6,500 lives.

<sup>2</sup> California Air Resources Board. "Proposed Emission Reduction Plan for Ports and Goods Movement in California," March 21, 2006. page 2.

<sup>3</sup> Schrank, David. "2007 Urban Mobility Study." Texas Transportation Institute. May 2007. Table 2.- "Components of the Congestion Problem, 2005 Urban Area Totals"

<sup>4</sup> BTHA and CalEPA. "Goods Movement Action Plan: Draft." March 2005 p ES-1.

<sup>5</sup> BTHA and CalEPA. "Goods Movement Action Plan: Draft." March 2005 p. IV-12.

<sup>6</sup> Based on DVD box dimensions of 415mm x 88mm x 365mm and an internal volume of 28m<sup>3</sup> for a 20' container (TEU), approximately 2,100 DVD boxes fit in one TEU.

<sup>7</sup> Public Policy Institute of California, "Californians & the Environment," page 24.



**“The Californians who live near ports, rail yards, and along high traffic corridors, are subsidizing the goods movement sector with their health.”**

–Air Resources Board-  
Draft Goods Movement Emission  
Reduction Plan (2006)

**The benefits of SB 974 are great, and the costs are low.**

The container fee would add just a few pennies to the cost of a DVD player imported through the ports.<sup>6</sup>

**Californians will support SB 974**

In a July 2007 poll, the Public Policy Institute of California found that 68% of Californians favor a container fee at the state’s largest ports to help relieve congestion and fix air pollution.<sup>7</sup>

## We support the Ports Investment Bill

### City Councils

City of Burbank  
City of Cerritos  
City of Commerce  
City of Cudahy  
City of Downey  
City of Lakewood  
City of Long Beach  
City of Signal Hill  
City of South Gate

### Chambers of Commerce

Cerritos Chamber of Commerce  
Downey Chamber of Commerce  
Gateway Chamber Alliance  
Lakewood Chamber of Commerce  
South Gate Chamber of Commerce

### Businesses and Business Leaders

Ballard Power Systems Inc.  
Clean Edge Power  
DeMonno/Kerdoon  
Environmental Entrepreneurs (E2)  
Intex Solutions Inc.  
National Hmong American Farmers, Inc.  
Pacific Coast Drapery Manufacturing  
San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership  
Steven Bochco Productions  
World Oil Corp.

### Elected Officials

Antonio R. Villaraigosa, Mayor, Los Angeles  
Bill Bogard, Mayor, Pasadena  
Bob Foster, Mayor, Long Beach  
Curt Pringle, Mayor, Anaheim  
Michael Antonovich, Supervisor, LA County  
Ron Loveridge, Mayor, Riverside  
Ron Dellums, Mayor, Oakland

### Labor Groups

California Labor Federation  
California-Nevada Conference of Operating Engineers (IUOE)  
California Nurses Association  
California Teamsters  
SEIU Local 721 (85,000 members)  
State Association of Electrical Workers  
State Building and Construction Trades Council

### Agencies/COGs

Alameda Corridor-East Construction Authority  
Bay Area Air Quality Management District  
California Air Pollution Control Officers Association  
Gateway Council of Governments (27 cities)  
Long Beach Unified School District  
LA County Metropolitan Transportation Authority  
Orange County Transportation Authority  
Port of Long Beach  
Port of Oakland  
San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments  
Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District  
South Bay Cities Council of Governments  
South Coast Air Quality Management District  
Southern California Association of Governments

### Environmental and Health Organizations

American Academy of Pediatrics California Division  
American Cancer Society  
American Heart Association  
American Lung Association of California,  
Asthma Coalition of Los Angeles County  
Breast Cancer Fund  
Breathe California  
California League of Conservation Voters  
California Thoracic Society  
Californians for Renewable Energy  
Center on Race, Poverty and the Environment  
Clean Power Campaign  
Clean Water and Air Matter  
Coalition for Clean Air  
Coalition for A Safe Environment  
Communities for Clean Ports  
Community Action to Fight Asthma  
Defenders of Wildlife  
Earth Day Los Angeles  
East Yard Communities for Environmental Justice  
Environment California  
Environmental Defense  
Friends of the Earth  
Long Beach Alliance for Children with Asthma  
Medical Advocates for Healthy Air

### Mom’s Clean Air Network

National Parks Conservation Association  
Natural Resources Defense Council  
Parents for a Safer Environment  
Parents for Safer Schools  
People for Parks  
Physicians for Social Responsibility  
Planning and Conservation League  
Plug In America  
Regional Asthma Management & Prevention Initiative  
San Leandro Healthy Communities  
San Francisco Medical Society  
San Joaquin Valley Latino Environmental Advancement and Policy Institute  
Sierra Club California  
The River Project  
Tri-Valley CAREs  
Union of Concerned Scientists

### Neighborhood Organizations

Elizabeth Hudson Elementary School  
Environmental Committee  
Pacoima Beautiful  
Strategic Concepts in Organizing & Policy Education  
West Long Beach Association  
West Oakland Environmental Indicators Project

### Religious Organizations

Clergy and Laity United for Economic Justice  
Coalition on the Environment and Jewish Life of Southern California  
Fresno Metro Ministry  
Interfaith Environmental Council  
Progressive Christians Uniting

### And Many More...

California Natural Gas Vehicle Coalition  
California Prison Moratorium Project  
California Rural Legal Assistance Foundation  
Consumer Attorneys of California  
Foothill Cardiology  
Glendale Heart Institute Medical Group  
Los Angeles Alliance for a New Economy  
Los Angeles County Democratic Party  
Los Angeles County Police Chiefs’ Association  
Maria Armoudian, Commissioner, City of LA  
Orange County Taxpayers Association

contact

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