

Nevada State Environmental Commission 901 S. Stewart Street Suite 4001 Carson City, NV 89701

November 12, 2024

Subject: Public Health Groups Support the Nevada Clean Truck Incentive Program (AB184)

Dear Commissioners,

On behalf of the undersigned health and medical organizations serving Nevada, we are pleased to express our support for Permanent Regulation R138-24 (Assembly Bill 184) which establishes the Clean Trucks and Buses Incentive Program. This program will help accelerate the clean up of the largest source of unhealthy pollution and bring significant public health benefits.

Nevadans are exposed to some of the highest levels of air pollution in the United States, and this is largely due to the transportation sector. The American Lung Association's 2024 "<u>State of the Air</u>" report revealed 94% of residents are impacted by unhealthy air. Both Las Vegas and Reno rank among the top 25 most polluted cities lists for ozone, short-term and annual particle pollution levels. Air pollution threatens human health at every stage of life, exacerbating respiratory and cardiovascular issues, increasing risk of preterm birth or low birth weight, and increasing likelihood of premature death. This health burden disproportionately impacts Nevada children, seniors, people with lower incomes, and people of color.

The transportation sector is the leading source of air pollution burdens and health disparities threatening Nevada residents. AB184 is critical to clean up the heaviest doses of pollution on our roads and protect residents from breathing in dangerous levels of particulates from diesel exhaust. This program will accelerate the adoption of medium and heavy-duty (MHD) zero emission trucks. Currently, MHD vehicles make up the smallest percentage of on-road vehicles, but generate the greatest emissions that drive unhealthy air quality. The American Lung Association's "Delivering Clean Air" report demonstrates cleaning up MHD vehicles and investing in noncombustion energy could yield up to \$5.2 Billion in public health benefits in Nevada over the coming decades, including:

- 56,722 lost work days avoided
- 10,569 asthma attacks avoided
- 474 premature deaths avoided

For these reasons, public health organizations support the Clean Trucks and Buses Incentive Program to accelerate zero-emission truck adoption to protect Nevadans from deadly diesel exhaust. We urge the State Environmental Commission to approve this regulation R144-24 (AB184) as an opportunity to improve air quality and spur economic and health benefits. Please contact Melissa Ramos at melissa.ramos@lung.org with any questions.

Sincerely,

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