

August 15, 2016

The Honorable Autumn Burke State Capitol, Room 5144 Sacramento, CA 95814

SUBJECT: AB 2722 (Burke) - SUPPORT

Dear Assemblywomen Burke,

I am writing on behalf of the California Natural Gas Vehicle Coalition (CNGVC) in **SUPPORT OF AB 2722**. CNGVC finds that this bill is directly in line with our mission to improve air quality through the reduction of emissions of greenhouse gases, NOX and Particulate Matter, particularly in disadvantaged communities.

Low-income communities are often located near freeways and are thus directly impacted by the particulate matter from vehicle emissions. CNGVC promotes natural gas as a cleaner alternative fuel and supports programs that incentivize progress in reducing greenhouse gas emissions. This bill directly addresses and emphasizes the communities most at risk by funding *neighborhood-level* transformative climate community plans.

Specifically, AB 2722 would:

- Establish the Transformative Climate Communities Program, to be administered by the Strategic Growth Council, with the purpose of funding the development and implementation of transformative climate community plans on a local level
- Require that grants be awarded to eligible entities, after an application process, that are pursuing programs to reduce greenhouse gas emissions or benefit the climate in the most vulnerable communities
- Require that the Strategic Growth Council consider economic, environmental, and health benefits as equally comparable to climate benefits

We commend you for authoring this important piece of legislation.

The California Natural Gas Vehicle Coalition represents the state's natural gas vehicle industry and includes major automobile manufacturers, utilities, heavy-duty engine manufacturers, fueling station providers, equipment manufacturers, and fleet users of natural gas vehicles. We are working to advance natural gas as an alternative transportation fuel.

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Please do not hesitate to contact me at (916) 448-0015 or thomas@cngvc.org if you have any questions about our position.

Sincerely,

Thomas Lawson

President