



**LAKE COUNTY AIR QUALITY
MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**
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June 19, 2018

The Honorable Bob Wieckowski, Chair
Senate Environmental Quality Committee
State Capitol, Room 2205
Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: AB 2336 (Salas)-Oppose

Dear Senator Wieckowski:

I am writing on behalf of the Lake County Air Quality Management District (LCAQMD) Board of Directors to express our opposition to AB 2336. This bill on school bus funding allocation is scheduled to be heard in your committee shortly. The LCAQMD has long supported cutting emissions from school buses. The primary pollutant of concern from school buses is diesel particulate matter, a toxic air contaminant with significant localized health impacts. Reducing exposure to this air toxic is a primary goal of both the Air Resources Board and local air districts. Though Lake County is the only full attainment air basin in California, the localized health impacts from school bus operations can be significant.

The health impact of a school bus is influenced by its age, its annual mileage, the terrain (hills vs flat land) the density of the communities it drives through, the number of children on the bus, and the individual trip distances for those children. This bill would direct school bus cleanup funding to areas designated as extreme non-attainment for the regional pollutants such as ozone or fine particles (PM2.5). While the South Coast and San Joaquin air districts have legitimate ozone and PM2.5 air quality problems, school bus emissions do not cause, nor do they significantly contribute to those problems. Using extreme non-attainment status as the primary criteria to allocate diesel cleanup funding, which originates statewide, is not the best use of statewide funds. The extreme non-attainment areas have the ability to access revenue from many local, State, and Federal sources to fund purchases and retrofits of school buses that many other air districts, such as the LCAQMD and other rural areas do not have. This bill would eliminate a major funding source to replace old, high polluting school buses in Lake County.

We urge you to vote against this bill, and allow schools statewide to apply for funding to replace older buses.

Sincerely,

Jim Steele, Chair
LCAQMD Board of Directors

CC: Members, Senate Environmental Quality Committee
Assembly Member Rudy Salas

