



TESTIMONY IN **SUPPORT OF SB 931**
AN ACT CONCERNING EMISSIONS STANDARDS FOR
MEDIUM AND HEAVY DUTY VEHICLES

February 26, 2021

To: Honored Chairs Sen. Cohen and Rep. Borer and Distinguished Members of the Environment Committee

From: Emily Alexander, Connecticut League of Conservation Voters

On behalf of the Connecticut League of Conservation Voters (CTLCV), thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony **IN SUPPORT of SB 931** to evaluate the need to adopt California's medium and heavy-duty vehicle standards.

Medium and heavy-duty vehicles, like trucks and buses, cause poor air quality in some of our most overburdened neighborhoods. A Union for Concerned Scientists study showed that Asian American, Black, and Latino communities are disproportionately harmed by air pollution from vehicles. **Respectively, they face 34%, 24%, and 23% more exposure than white communities.**

Additionally, the toxic air pollutants emitted by these trucks have major health impacts, including asthma attacks, lung cancer, heart attacks, strokes, and premature death. According to the Sierra Club, although trucks account for only 10% of vehicles on the road, they are responsible for nearly **30% of carbon emissions, 45% of nitrogen oxide (NOx) emissions, and 57% of particulate matter (PM2.5)** emitted by the entire transportation sector. Toxic air pollutants have major health impacts, including asthma attacks, lung cancer, heart attacks, strokes, and premature death.

In 2020, California adopted the Advanced Clean Truck (ACT) rule requiring manufacturers to produce zero-emission trucks beginning in 2024, and it increases production targets through 2035. Additionally, the rule aims to put 300,000 zero-emission trucks on the road by 2035. It requires that sales of medium and heavy-duty vehicles reach at least **30% by 2030, 40% by 2035, and 100% by 2045**. Also in 2020, Connecticut joined 15 other states in signing a memorandum of understanding on their commitment to truck electrification and eliminating toxic air pollution from medium and heavy-duty trucks and buses by 2050.

Connecticut needs to adopt the California medium and heavy-duty vehicle standards to keep us on track to achieving our clean air goals, protecting public health, and slowing climate change-related issues. We urge the committee to **SUPPORT SB 931**. Thank you for your consideration as you deliberate on this bill.

Sincerely,

Emily Alexander
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