



The Honorable Chris Holden
 Chair, Assembly Committee on Appropriations
 1021 O Street, Suite 5650
 Sacramento, CA 95814



Re: SB 414 (Allen) –SUPPORT

Dear Assemblymember Holden,

On behalf of the undersigned organizations, we write in support of SB 414 (Allen), which would require California’s expert agencies to coordinate on an assessment of the use of hydrogen in certain applications and to evaluate the opportunities to deploy other decarbonization solutions for the same applications. The assessment required by SB 414 would help California decisionmakers make informed decisions for allocating scarce public resources and protect the public from the health, safety, environmental, and climate risks of deploying hydrogen inappropriately.

SB 414 would fill an important informational void, as no other legislation or executive action is poised to compare the cost, efficiency, and feasibility of deploying hydrogen and other decarbonization strategies across the sectors that emit almost all California’s climate and criteria pollution. Independent assessment of these topics is critical for developing the policies California will need to achieve net zero greenhouse gas emissions as soon as possible, but no later than 2045.¹ The assessment is also critical to ensuring that public dollars are used in the most cost-effective way in meeting our 2045 goals and developing hydrogen resources in that endeavor.

We appreciate Senator Allen’s efforts to craft SB 414 to answer pressing questions, help identify where hydrogen could best support state goals, and complement other assessments the Legislature has requested. We especially appreciate that Senator Allen has recognized the importance of understanding which decarbonization strategies can deliver the most rapid and substantial reductions in health-harming air pollution in California’s disadvantaged

¹ See Cal. Health and Safety Code § 38562.2(b) (codifying AB 1279 – Muratsuchi (2022)).

communities. We also thank the author's office for taking the time to discuss this bill and consider opportunities to improve it.

We are pleased to support SB 414 and respectfully request your aye vote when the bill is heard in committee.

Sincerely,

Sara Gersen
Earthjustice

Merrian Borgeson
Natural Resources Defense Council

Bahram Fazeli
Communities for a Better Environment

Katelyn Roedner Sutter
Environmental Defense Fund

Amee Ravel
Asian Pacific Environmental Network

Woody Hastings
The Climate Center

Ari Eisenstadt
California Environmental Justice Alliance Action

Christina Scaringe
Center for Biological Diversity

Gabriela Facio
Sierra Club California

Daniel Barad
Union of Concerned Scientists

Kayla Karimi
Center on Race, Poverty, & the Environment

cc: The Honorable Ben Allen
The Honorable Members of the Assembly Appropriations Committee