

March 9, 2006

Honorable Mayor and Members of
the Hermosa Beach City Council

Regular Meeting of
March 14, 2006

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING AB2015 (LIEU) WHICH ENHANCES
MUNICIPAL REPRESENTATION ON THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AIR
QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS.**

Recommendation:

The City Council adopt the attached resolution supporting the expansion of the Governing Board membership and AB2015 by Assemblyman Ted Lieu.

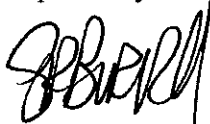
Background:

The present make up of the Board of the Southern California Air Quality Management District does not allow a member representing the cities in the western part of Los Angeles County. The proposal by Assemblyman Lieu would increase the membership from 12 to 16. This would result in a member chosen from this area.

I have attached a resolution, letter of support and some additional background information provided by the South Bay Cities Council of Governments.

Most recently, the cities of Los Angeles, El Segundo, Redondo Beach and Manhattan Beach have adopted resolutions in support of AB2015.

Respectfully submitted,



Stephen R. Burrell
City Manager

RESOLUTION NO. 06-

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF HERMOSA BEACH, CALIFORNIA,
SUPPORTING AB 2015 (LIEU) WHICH ENHANCES MUNICIPAL
REPRESENTATION ON THE SCAQMD BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

WHEREAS, it is in the interest of all municipal governments that cities be equitably represented on policy-making regional boards; and,

WHEREAS, the current number of municipal representatives on the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) does not fully recognize cities in the South Bay and Westside Sectors of Los Angeles County and places the cities of Calabasas and Malibu in what is identified by statute as the Eastern Sector of the SCAQMD jurisdiction, and,

WHEREAS, providing separate seats for a city within the Western Sector and the City of Los Angeles will ensure that the population of the City of Los Angeles and the populations of smaller cities in the Western and Eastern Sectors are represented on the SCAQMD Board commensurate with their populations; and,

WHEREAS, realigning cities within Los Angeles County into sectors which are more geographically equitable is significant and important to regional policy decision-making; and,

WHEREAS, providing the cities of Orange, Riverside, and San Bernardino Counties with representation which more fairly represents their growing population and greater pollution levels fosters greater “buy-in” by providing more local input and participation by elected officials throughout the District; and,

WHEREAS, the current proposal would retain the expertise of the Sacramento appointees; and,

1 **WHEREAS**, the current proposal has received the support of the South Bay Cities Council of
2 Governments, the Las Virgenes-Malibu Council of Governments, the Gateway Council of
3 Governments, the League of California Cities, Los Angeles County Division, the Contract Cities
4 Association, the Independent Cities Association and the City of Los Angeles;

5
6 **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the City of Hermosa Beach supports AB 2015 by
7 Assemblymember Ted Lieu which requires a change in membership of the SCAQMD Board to
8 add 4 additional municipal members: 1 additional municipal representative for each county
9 represented by the District.

10
11 **PASSED, APPROVED, and ADOPTED** this 14th day of March, 2006.

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13
14 _____
15 **PRESIDENT** of the City Council and **MAYOR** of the City of Hermosa Beach, California

16
17 **ATTEST:**

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

18
19 _____
20 **CITY CLERK**

CITY ATTORNEY

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25
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27
28

Date

The Honorable Ted Lieu
California State Assembly
P.O. Box 942849
Sacramento, CA 94249-0001

Dear Assembly Member Lieu:

The City of _____ has adopted a support position on AB 2015, your bill to enhance municipal membership on the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD). We are pleased to add our city's name to the growing list of supporters.

The impetus for seeking a change in the SCAQMD Board structure first arose due to the situation with the City of Los Angeles being in the same sector as 24 other cities in the Western part of Los Angeles County. In the course of the discussion on the Los Angeles County Western Sector concerns, several stakeholders expressed their desire to recognize the burgeoning populations in Orange, San Bernardino and Riverside Counties, and the belief that these counties have experienced a significant increase in air pollution levels since the formation of the District. To respond to these concerns, AB 2015 has been drafted to include an additional municipal member from each of these counties without impacting the service or tenure of current representatives.

Therefore, while AB 2015 would address the unique issue of membership in Western Los Angeles County, AB 2015 would also increase municipal membership for the ever growing populations of Orange, Riverside and San Bernardino Counties. Statistically, Orange County, Riverside County and San Bernardino County *each* represent about 16.6 percent of the voting authority on the District Board. Los Angeles County represents 25 percent. A 16-member board would increase Orange, Riverside and San Bernardino's voting authority to 18.3 percent each. Los Angeles County would remain at 25 percent.

The City of _____ believes that AB 2015 will provide for greater direct and more equitable municipal membership and voting rights on a crucial regional board at a crucial time. Thank you for your leadership on this issue.

Sincerely,

(name)

cc: Senator (representing your city)
Assembly Member (representing your city)

Supporters include:

- South Bay Cities Council of Governments
- Las Virgenes-Malibu Council of Governments
- League of California Cities-Los Angeles County Division
- Gateway Cities Council of Governments
- Contract Cities Association
- Independent Cities Association
- City of Los Angeles
- City of Manhattan Beach

UPDATE

AB 2015

MUNICIPAL REPRESENTATION ON THE SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY DISTRICT BOARD

The following provides information about the effort to add members to the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) Board lead by the South Bay Cities Council of Governments (SBCCOG). The SBCCOG formed a coalition with the Las Virgenes-Malibu Council of Governments, the League of California Cities-Los Angeles County Division, and the Gateway Cities Council of Governments, along with other interested participants, to review alternative Board configurations. Now, the South Bay Cities COG is seeking the support of additional municipal organizations and other stakeholders on a proposal to increase the SCAQMD Board to effect more equitable representation.

History of Issue

The twelve members of the SCAQMD Board are selected in varying ways according to State statute. Three of the members are selected by officials in Sacramento: the governor, the Assembly Speaker, and the Senate Rules Committee. Four members are selected by the county boards of supervisors in Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, and San Bernardino Counties. There is one municipal member each selected from the municipalities in Orange, Riverside and San Bernardino Counties. Finally, in Los Angeles County, there are two representatives selected from municipalities: one from an area designated as the Eastern Sector, one from an area designated as the Western Sector (25 cities).

The impetus for seeking a change in the SCAQMD Board structure first arose due to the unique situation of the Los Angeles County Western Sector cities. The statute sets into law which cities are to be within the Western Sector and the procedure for the selection of that sector's representative. The City of Los Angeles is placed within the Western Sector and the law prescribes that the representative is selected by a majority of the cities with the majority of the population. The practical, and historical, result is that the representative is always an elected official from the City of Los Angeles, or the board position is vacant.

Another issue unique to the Western Sector is that, because the cities of that sector are specifically noted in statute, cities which have been more recently incorporated in the Western part of Los Angeles County are *automatically* placed in the Eastern Sector and are represented on the board by the Eastern Sector representative.

Proposal

The coalition's legislative proposal would seek to resolve the two above noted issues for the Western Sector of Los Angeles County. The effort was initiated by a letter from the SBCCOG which was mailed to interested parties in February, 2005. The letter announced the commencement of a review of the SCAQMD Board structure and offer alternatives which would address the Western Sector concerns. Municipal organizations and other stakeholders were invited to join a Task Force to further the discussion and determine if a legislative alternative could be developed. Participants included members of the South Bay Cities COG, the Las Virgenes-Malibu COG, the Gateway Cities COG, the Westside Cities COG, the City of Los Angeles and the Executive Committee of the Los Angeles County League of California Cities.

The Executive Committee, the Las Virgenes-Malibu COG and the South Bay Cities COG are financial partners in the effort. The SCAQMD was kept informed of all activities in this regard.

That Task Force reviewed approximately 12 alternatives. It is the case, however, that in the course of this discussion several individuals shared issues relating to burgeoning populations in Orange, San Bernardino and Riverside Counties, and shared the belief that these counties have experienced a significant increase in air pollution levels since the formation of the District. Additionally, a previous legislative effort to create one additional seat for the City of Los Angeles was opposed by the SCAQMD Board and, according to our information, officials in Orange, Riverside and San Bernardino Counties.

Given this information, the Task Force initially forwarded a proposal which would add 8 new members to the SCAQMD Board: 1 county and 1 municipal representative from each county represented in the District. *After further discussion with representatives from various levels of government, supporters are now forwarding a proposal which would add 4 additional municipal members to the SCAQMD Board: 1 additional municipal representative for each county represented by the District.* It is the intent of the Task Force that the Sacramento appointments remain the same, and that tenures of current Board members not be impacted by the change.

The rationale for **adding 4 members** to the SCAQMD Board includes the following elements:

- Providing separate seats for a city within the Western Sector and the City of Los Angeles;
- Realigning cities within Los Angeles County into sectors which are more geographically equitable;
- Providing additional elected official representation for all of the counties within the District;
- Retaining the expertise of the Sacramento appointees;
- Fostering greater "buy-in" by providing more local input and participation by elected officials in the District's decision-making process; and,
- Aligning the representation on the Board with the explosive population growth experienced by the region within the last thirty years.

It should also be noted that, statistically, Orange County, Riverside County and San Bernardino County *each* represent about 16.6 percent of the voting authority on the District Board. Los Angeles County represents 25 percent. A 16-member board would increase Orange, Riverside and San Bernardino's voting authority to 18.3 percent each. Los Angeles County would remain at 25 percent.

Status

At the present time, the South Bay Cities COG is seeking support for adding additional members to the SCAQMD Board from municipal organizations and others from around the District's jurisdiction. Assembly Member Ted Lieu has introduced AB 2015 on this issue. The SCAQMD Board adopted an oppose position to any change to the board structure on January 6. The City of Los Angeles Council unanimously approved a motion to support legislation enhancing municipal membership on the SCAQMD Board. The Contract Cities' Association as well as the Independent Cities Association have both adopted a support position on AB 2015.