August 31, 2026

Please OPPOSE Congressional Review Act resolutions targeting state waivers on clean vehicle and engine standards

Dear Members of Congress:

The undersigned health and medical organizations are strongly opposed to efforts to improperly apply the Congressional Review Act to overturn long-standing Clean Air Act program waivers that have helped or are scheduled to help reduce emissions from a range of sectors, leading to better air quality and health protections.

The Clean Air Act explicitly allows California to adopt emissions standards that are more protective than federal requirements and requires the state to receive a waiver from EPA to implement each program. Other states also have the authority under the Clean Air Act – if it makes sense for their state and the pollution sources that impact air quality – to adopt California's tighter limits. More than 75 waivers to adopt and implement these types of programs have been granted without issue for decades by both Republican and Democratic administrations. This option for more protective standards allows states to utilize every tool in their toolbox to improve air quality for their residents, efficiencies for businesses and other benefits.

Overturning these state pollution programs represent an infringement on states' rights and responsibilities to protect their residents from pollution. At a time when more than 152

million people live in areas with unhealthy levels of air pollution[1], and families across the country are facing increased energy and healthcare costs, overturning waivers that have a proven record of improving air quality is dangerous. What's more, many of these waivers are already fully implemented and complied with by automakers and repealing them could lead to backsliding in technology that ends up costing consumers more at the pump.

The following on-road standards have been adopted in whole or in part by 17 states, each undergoing their own state rulemaking process with public comments, hearing and deliberation.

H.J. Res 202/H.J. Res 211/S.J. Res 206 would overturn a 2009 California rule to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from cars, light-duty trucks and medium-duty vehicles. These standards have already been implemented *and* complied with by auto manufacturers. The transportation sector is the largest contributor to U.S. greenhouse gas emissions that accelerate climate change, making disasters like wildfires and extreme heat more frequent and intense.[2]

H.J. Res 205/S.J. Res 207 and **H.J. Res 212/S.J. Res 208** would overturn California's "Advanced Clean Cars" program, which was established a decade ago to reduce smog-forming emissions from new vehicles by 75% through 2025. These standards have already been implemented *and* complied with by automakers. Transportation pollution contributes to premature death, deaths due to cardiovascular illness, deaths due to lung cancer, new asthma attacks in children and more.[3]

The following off-road standards apply *only* to California to meet ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards and have not been introduced in other states, meaning there is little justification for Congressional action.

H.J. Res 214/S.J. Res 205 would overturn a California rule that sets standards for emissions from lawn and landscaping equipment and other small off-road engines (SORE). These engines may be small, but they now contribute more smog-forming pollution in

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[1] American Lung Association. State of the Air 2026. April 2026. www.lung.org/sota.
[2] Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), Sixth Assessment Report: Synthesis Report 3-5 (2023); U.S. Global Change Research Program, Fifth National Climate Assessment, Chapter I: Understanding Risks, Impacts, and Responses (2023); Nat'l Acad. of Sci., Eng'g, & Med., Climate Change: Evidence and Causes: Update 2020 (2020); Am. Meteorological Soc., State of the Climate: 2024 Report (2025); Am. Ass'n for the Advancement of Sci., What We Know: The Reality, Risks, and Response to Climate Change (2014).
[3] Health Effects Institute. "Systematic Review and Meta-analysis of Selected Health Effects of Long-Term Exposure to Traffic-Related Air Pollution." Special Report 23: 2022 Traffic Pollution and Your Health - HEI

California than all the cars on the state's roads. The operation of a standard commercial leaf-blower produces the smog-forming emissions equivalent to driving a standard sedan 1,100 miles.[4] These standards apply *only* to California, making this action to undo the program an encroachment on states' rights.

H.J. Res 210/S.J. Res 209 would overturn the Ocean-Going Vessels At-Berth policy, which requires ships calling on California ports to utilize shore power rather than idling engines. This policy is crucial to the health and safety of communities nearest major ports – including the largest port complex in the nation. By implementing this program, cancer risk caused by idling ship engines will be cut as local and regional air quality improves.

H.J. Res 213/S.J. Res 210 would overturn California's Commercial Harbor Craft (CHC) standards, which ensure the ongoing deployment of cleaner technologies to protect the health of those working on and living near working harbors. The CHC sector represents one of the top three cancer risks in seaport communities and contributes to California communities failing to achieve health-protective air quality standards. Fully implemented, the CHC standards would cut carcinogenic diesel particle pollution by 89%.

Abandoning health protections already met by industry ignores the reality of both health harms and industry investment and sets a risky precedent eroding states' rights and introducing federal interference into other local health policy decisions.

Sincerely,

Alaska Public Health Association
Allergy & Asthma Network
Alliance of Nurses for Healthy Environments
American Academy of Pediatrics
American Academy of Pediatrics, California Chapter 1
American Academy of Pediatrics, Virginia Chapter
American College of Physicians
American Lung Association
American Public Health Association
American Thoracic Society
Arizona Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics

[4] CARB, Small Off-Road Engines in California Fact Sheet. 2021. https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/sites/default/files/2021-12/2021 SORE Fact Sheet.pdf

Arizona Health Professionals for Climate Action
Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America
Breathe California
Breathe California of the Bay Area, Golden Gate and Central Coast
Breathe Southern California
California Nurses for Environmental Health and Justice
Center for Environmental Health
Children's Environmental Health Network
Climate Health Now
Climate Psychiatry Alliance
Clinicians for Climate Action New Jersey
Connecticut Health Professionals for Climate Action
EcoHealth Texas
Georgia Clinicians for Climate Action
Greater Boston Physicians for Social Responsibility
Hawai'i Public Health Association
Health Professionals for a Healthy Climate
Healthier Together
Idaho Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics
Idaho Clinicians for Climate and Health
Illinois Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics
Illinois Public Health Association
International Society for Environmental Epidemiology-North America Chapter
Kansas Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics
KY Chapter of AAP
Maine AAP
Maine Climate and Health Alliance
Maryland Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics
Massachusetts Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics
Medical Students for a Sustainable Future (MS4SF)
Michigan Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics
Michigan Clinicians for Climate Action
Mississippi Public Health Association
Montana Health and Climate
Mothers & Others for Clean Air
National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners
National League for Nursing
National Medical Association

Nevada Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics
Nevada Public Health Association
New York Clinicians for Climate Action
NH Healthy Climate
Oncology Advocates United for Climate and Health - International
Oregon Physicians for Social Responsibility
Pennsylvania Public Health Association
Physicians for Social Responsibility
Physicians for Social Responsibility Colorado
Physicians for Social Responsibility Maine
Physicians for Social Responsibility Texas
Physicians for Social Responsibility/Sacramento
PSR Florida Chapter, Inc.
Regional Asthma Management & Prevention
San Francisco Bay Physicians for Social Responsibility
Southern Environmental Law Center
St. John's Community Health
Utah Public Health Association
Vermont Public Health Association