

(Date)

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger
State Capitol Building
Sacramento, CA 95814
Fax: 916-445-4633

RE: SUPPORT FOR AB 2444

Dear Governor Schwarzenegger:

I am writing *(if on behalf of an organization, insert "on behalf of [organization name]"*) to express strong support for AB 2444, a bill allowing two separate annual vehicle registration fees to be imposed in the Bay Area to fund programs mitigating the environmental impacts of cars and managing traffic congestion, and **to urge you to approve this legislative bill.**

I, along with the California Bicycle Coalition, support AB 2444 because it represents an opportunity to increase the number of Californians who rely on bicycling as a mode of transportation.

Automobiles are responsible for a significant portion of the air pollution in the Bay Area. In 2000, the Bay Area Air Quality Management District stated that cars emit more than 50% of ozone-forming compounds and over 70% of the carbon monoxide in the region. These pollution levels can be reduced when drivers use non-polluting modes of transportation, such as bicycling and walking, to reach their destinations.

Roadway congestion will dissipate when less people drive automobiles. As soon as cyclists can safely and conveniently connect with other existing mass transit systems: light rail, train, ferry, bus service, and BART; bicycling becomes a feasible alternative to relying on a motor vehicle.

Therefore, we recommend that fees collected through this bill be invested in endeavors that encourage bicycling as a mode of transportation, such as:

- Implementation of projects outlined in adopted city and county bike plans
- The Safe Routes to Transit Program that aims to improve the safety and convenience of bicycling and walking to public transit stations;
- Installation of additional bicycle parking facilities at transit stations and workplaces.
- Infill, mixed use, and transit oriented development projects that allow residents to reach shops without driving and easily access mass transit;
- Cash-out programs that dissuade employees from driving to work alone by paying them for their parking spot.

Thank you in advance for promoting bicycling as a mode of transportation in the Bay Area via your approval of AB 2444.

Sincerely,

Your Name

Organization Name (if applicable)

(If not on letterhead, provide address and phone number)