



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF THE BAY AREA
An Inter-League Organization of the San Francisco Bay Area



June 19, 2008

The Honorable Jared Huffman
California State Assembly
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Support for AB 2558

Dear Assembly Member Huffman,

The League of Women Voters of the Bay Area strongly supports AB 2558 that would create a Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Fee to finance long-term transportation alternatives and other solutions to address climate change within the two most populous regions in the State. The passage of AB 2558 would mean that San Francisco Metropolitan Transportation Commission and the Los Angeles Metropolitan Transportation Authority could develop and present to regional voters a proposal, and with majority support, start funding projects that address climate change and greenhouse gas emission reductions.

The LWVBA has long supported a regional transportation system in the Bay Area that would reduce vehicle miles traveled (VMT) and single-occupancy vehicle use. We support funding for this system from user fees, tolls and other revenues derived from transportation-related sources, and that also that would address priorities such as global climate change and would have additional benefits of changing behavior.

In the Bay area, 50% of the greenhouse gas emissions are from transportation sources, and this fee could encourage the use of transit and reduce the vehicle miles travelled. Even though there are other bonds and sales taxes designated for transportation purposes at the state level, we believe that both regions will need far more dollars to meet the area's needs than will be available from these sources and that residents should be given the opportunity to decide whether or not they are willing to pay more to meet these needs.

If we are serious about reducing greenhouse gas emissions, we have to invest in quality alternatives. Your bill would give Los Angeles and the Bay Area the ability to take the lead in doing this.

Sincerely,

/s/ signed

Linda Craig, Acting President
League of Women Voters of the Bay Area