



AB 398 / AB 617 – Support

July 14, 2017

Dear Assemblymember:

We urge your support of AB 398 and AB 617, legislation extending California’s cap and trade program to continue the state’s leadership in reducing greenhouse gas emissions and achieving more effective monitoring and control of criteria and toxic air pollutants in communities that have suffered disproportionately from air pollution.

Achieving the state’s climate protection goals remains a significant challenge. Putting a price on carbon is essential to driving continuing innovation to develop and bring to market new solutions in sectors like energy efficiency, demand response, bioenergy and clean generation. Fostering market-based innovation offers us the opportunity to achieve the necessary carbon reductions in a cost-effective manner, while creating new opportunities for economic leadership.

We applaud this legislation’s prioritization of climate and clean energy research, as well as the recognition that funding is needed for priorities like reducing air toxics, expanding low-and zero-carbon transportation alternatives; promoting healthy forests, sustainable agricultural practices and urban greening; and supporting climate adaptation and resiliency. Given the uncertainty in continued federal support of climate and clean energy research, it is important that California agencies have access to the basic and applied research needed to achieve these vital California environmental and energy objectives.

For these reasons, we urge your support of AB 398 and AB 617.