

Council Meeting of
February 27, 2007

Honorable Mayor and Members
of the City Council
City Hall
Torrance, California

Members of the Council:

**SUBJECT: City Manager – Adopt RESOLUTION to support AB 391 (Lieu)
and forward letters of support to State Legislators
Expenditure: N/A**

RECOMMENDATION

The City Manager recommends that City Council:

1. Adopt a **RESOLUTION** supporting AB 391 (Lieu) which increases membership of the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) Board from twelve (12) to thirteen (13) by adding one new member, and
2. Authorize staff to forward letters of support to State Legislators.

Funding

N/A

BACKGROUND

The South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) is a representative entity that regulates air quality and smog control for the South Coast area, consisting of Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, and San Bernardino Counties. The SCAQMD Board has traditionally consisted of twelve (12) members who are selected as follows:

- One member appointed by the Governor
- One member appointed by the Speaker of the Assembly
- One member appointed by the Senate Committee on Rules
- One member appointed by each of the Board of Supervisors of the four counties (Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, and San Bernardino) within the SCAQMD area

- One member appointed by each of the City Selection Committees of Orange, Riverside, and San Bernardino counties
- One member appointed by the City Selection Committee for the eastern region of Los Angeles County
- One member appointed by the City Selection Committee for the western region of Los Angeles County

Within the Western Sector of Los Angeles County, which includes the City of Los Angeles, a representative is selected by a majority of the cities with the majority of the population. The practical, historical result is that the representative has always been an elected official from the City of Los Angeles, or the board position is vacant.

Another issue is that because a statute specifically notes which cities are incorporated into the Western Sector, cities which have only recently been incorporated are automatically placed in the Eastern Sector, regardless of location.

ANALYSIS

In order to encourage fair regional policy-making, California State Assemblymember Ted Lieu has introduced AB 391, which builds on AB 2015 from the 2006 Legislative Session, and will modify the composition of the SCAQMD Board. This bill would increase the number of members on the south coast district board from twelve (12) to thirteen (13) by adding one new member appointed by the Mayor of the City of Los Angeles from the members of the City Council of the City of Los Angeles. This proposal would not affect the Sacramento appointments, and the tenures of the current Board members would not be impacted by the change. This bill will clean up legislation last visited 20 years ago by:

- Adding one city government representative from Los Angeles County
- Giving 1.5 million people in the 24 smaller cities in LA County's western sector the opportunity to be directly represented on the Board
- Moving the cities of Calabasas and Malibu into the western sector
- Giving the City of Los Angeles its own seat on the Board

The proposal has been supported by various entities including the South Bay Cities Council of Governments, the Las Virgenes-Malibu Council of Governments, the Gateway Council of Governments, Westside Cities Council of Governments, the League of California Cities, Los Angeles County Division, and the Independent Cities Association.

Therefore, the City Manager recommends that City Council adopt the attached resolution to support AB 391 (Lieu) to more fairly represent the interests of the

South Bay cities and other cities in the Western Sector of Los Angeles County,
and authorize staff to forward letters in support of AB 391 to our State Legislators.

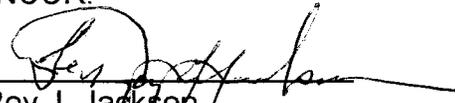
Respectfully submitted,

LeROY J. JACKSON
CITY MANAGER



Nhung Huynh
Management Aide

CONCUR:



LeRoy J. Jackson
City Manager

RESOLUTION NO. 2007-___**A RESOLUTION BY THE TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL AUTHORIZING
SUPPORT OF AB 391 (LIEU) WHICH ENHANCES MUNICIPAL
REPRESENTATION ON THE SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY
MANAGEMENT (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, the majority of the businesses identified as the top 100 polluters, VOC, NOx and PM10, are in the Western Los Angeles County cities (excluding the City of Los Angeles); and

WHEREAS, based on California Air Resources data, businesses in the Western Los Angeles County cities' are shouldering a significant financial impact. Between July 2004 and June 2006, businesses in Western Los Angeles County cities were penalized nearly \$10 million (without the BP Arco Penalty), 10 times that of any other region in the District's jurisdiction; and

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

WHEREAS, the current proposal has received the support of city organizations including: the South Bay Cities Council of Governments, the Las Virgenes-Malibu Council of Governments, the Gateway Cities Council of Governments, Westside Cities Council of Governments, the League of California Cities, Los Angeles County Division, and the Independent Cities Association;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE HEREBY: support AB 391 by Assembly Member Ted Lieu which requires a change in membership of the SCAQMD Board to add 1 additional municipal member for the Western Sector of the County of Los Angeles.

Introduced, approved and adopted this 27th day of February , 2007.

Mayor Frank Scotto

APPROVED AS TO FORM:
JOHN FELLOWS III, City Attorney

ATTEST:

by _____
Ronald T. Pohl, Assistant City Attorney

Sue Herbers
City Clerk