



Hydrogen Means Business in California!

April 13, 2022

The Honorable Ben Hueso
Chair, Senate Energy, Utilities, and Communications Committee
1021 O Street
Room 3350
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: SB 1329 (Newman) Hydrogen Fueling Infrastructure

Dear Senator Hueso:

The California Hydrogen Business Council¹ is **writing to express our support of SB 1329**, which will require the California Energy Commission (CEC) to determine the number of fueling stations necessary to provide distributed access to hydrogen fueling to light- and medium-duty fuel cell electric vehicles (FCEVs) statewide.

Despite substantial investments by private-sector market participants in bringing vehicles, stations, and fuel to market, current funding levels in the state are expected to cap out California's hydrogen fueling network at 200 stations by the middle of this decade. The absence of a complete, sufficiently distributed statewide hydrogen fueling network would represent a barrier to the market viability and widespread consumer acceptance of zero-emission vehicles. Recent studies have found that even after accounting for the recent uptake of battery-electric vehicles, California is unlikely to meet its current zero-emission vehicle goals without sufficient investment in hydrogen fueling infrastructure.

SB 1329 will provide an ongoing allocation of at least \$30 million annually from the Clean Transportation Program over the next decade to build out a statewide, publicly available FCEV hydrogen fueling network. No less than 60% of the funding will be put towards installations that completely or partially benefit disadvantaged communities. This will be in alignment with the Air Resources Board's 2021 peer-reviewed analysis showing that an investment of an additional \$300 million will bring the state's light- and medium-duty hydrogen fueling network to self-sufficiency.

¹ The CHBC is comprised of over 135 companies and agencies involved in the business of hydrogen. Our mission is to advance the commercialization of hydrogen in the energy sector, including transportation, goods movement, and stationary power systems to reduce emissions and dependence on oil. The views expressed in these comments are those of the CHBC, and do not necessarily reflect the views of all of the individual CHBC member companies. CHBC Members are listed here: <https://www.californiahydrogen.org/aboutus/chbc-members/>



Hydrogen Means Business in California!

SB 1329 will make necessary investments in the state's hydrogen fueling infrastructure to benefit those who would be otherwise excluded or overlooked in California's planned transition to zero-emission vehicles, with the ultimate goal of meeting Governor Newsom's Zero-Emission Vehicle Executive Order No. N-79-20.

For all of these reasons, the CHBC supports SB 1329.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sara Fitzsimon', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Sara Fitzsimon, J.D.
Policy Director
California Hydrogen Business Council