



Hydrogen Means Business in California!

May 11, 2022

Senator Bob Archuleta
1021 O Street, Suite 6720
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SB 1291 (Archuleta) Hydrogen Fueling Stations – SUPPORT

Dear Senator Archuleta:

The California Hydrogen Business Council (CHBC)¹, a hydrogen and fuel cell trade association comprised of a wide array of organizations ranging from auto manufacturers to utility companies to hydrogen producers, is pleased to support SB 1291.

Wide-spread adoption of fuel cell electric vehicles (FCEVs) is essential for California to meet the transportation sector's decarbonization and air quality goals. FCEVs offer long range--comparable to current gas-powered vehicles today—a short refueling time within minutes and are zero-emissions. Further, FCEVs run on hydrogen averaging 90% renewable content or more based on the California Air Resources Board's Low-Carbon Fuel Standard (LCFS). However, expansion of FCEVs in California relies on a fueling infrastructure network that has been slow to develop due to long permitting processes and the COVID-19 pandemic.

SB 1291 will assist California and hydrogen station developers grow the hydrogen fueling network by adding hydrogen fueling stations to the existing expedited permit siting procedures that battery electric vehicle chargers (EV chargers) enjoy. This bill ensures that, like EV chargers, hydrogen fueling station application use permits cannot be denied unless there is a written finding that the proposed station would have a specific, adverse impact on the public health or safety. The result of adding hydrogen fueling stations to these procedures will accelerate the pace in which permits are processed and ensure the applications address the health and safety standards necessary to protect the public.

The CHBC supports SB 1291's intent to treat hydrogen fueling infrastructure with parity among other zero-emission fueling technologies.

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

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/>