

CALIFORNIA INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE COUNCIL
*Advancing public policy to improve the health and safety
of workers and the community.*

The Honorable Cristina Garcia
State Capitol, Room 2013
Sacramento, CA 95814

May 9, 2016

RE: SUPPORT FOR AB 2153 (Garcia) Lead-Acid Battery Recycling Abatement Program

Dear Assembly Member Garcia,

On behalf of the California Industrial Hygiene Council (CIHC), I am writing to inform you of our support for your AB 2153 (Garcia) Lead-Acid Battery Recycling & Contamination Abatement Program, which would create a Lead-Acid Battery Recycling and Contamination Abatement program.

By way of introduction, the CIHC was founded in 1990 and represents the occupational and environmental health profession in California. CIHC is affiliated with the American Industrial Hygiene Association (AIHA), a 10,000 member national organization, as well as the International Occupational Hygiene Association (IOHA), which represents the global community of Occupational Hygiene organizations in over 34 countries.

Industrial Hygiene is a science and art devoted to the anticipation, recognition, evaluation, prevention, and control of those environmental factors or stressors arising in or from the workplace which may cause sickness, impaired health and well-being, or significant discomfort among workers or citizens of the community.

The legislation you are authoring would reallocate a fee already imposed on all car batteries, to fund the cleanup of contamination caused by lead acid batteries throughout California. This measure will bring relief to these affected communities and ensure solutions to a major long-term problem of lead contamination from these sources. The effects of improper disposal, production and recycling lead-acid batteries are detrimental to workers and our communities. Lead contamination has severe consequences, especially for young children and pregnant mothers, including cancer, birth defects, or other reproductive harm.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me or our lobbyist, Catherine Barankin, at the number below.

Sincerely,

Ed Klienenberg

Chair, California Industrial Hygiene Council
770 L Street, Suite 950, Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 447-7341

