



Date: February 24, 2021

To: Members, Senate Environmental Quality Committee

From: California Environmental Justice League

Subject: SUPPORT SB 18 (Skinner), as introduced on December 7, 2020

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The California Environmental Justice League (EJL) is pleased to support SB 18, which would require key state agencies to form integrated plans for accelerating green hydrogen production and use, as specified.

California has set ambitious goals for carbon emissions and renewable energy, but these targets are dispersed among various state agencies with each exploring different alternatives. SB 18 would direct focus to green hydrogen as part of a comprehensive plan for reducing GHG emissions and providing sustainable energy.

Just yesterday, the State Auditor released her assessment of the California Air Resources Board's (CARB's) emission reduction program (<http://www.auditor.ca.gov/reports/2020-114/summary.html>), finding that "CARB has not done enough to measure the GHG emissions reductions its incentive programs achieve" and "...has overstated GHG emissions reductions its incentive programs achieve". The report went on to say that we may be in danger of falling short of our climate change targets, especially since future cap-and-trade revenue is uncertain.

Given this setback, we believe it is important for the state to explore all practical and affordable climate change strategies. Green hydrogen has been shown to be a flexible source for multiple industrial, transportation, and energy uses with little to no carbon emissions. According to Forbes, some of the world's largest green hydrogen developers are launching an initiative to cut the cost of green hydrogen production in an effort to reduce emission from carbon-intensive industries.

California can capitalize on these opportunities and make significant progress toward our climate change goals if we have a cohesive actionable plan. SB 18 will help get us there.

For these and other reasons, we support this legislation.

Cc: The Honorable Nancy Skinner