



CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE ALLIANCE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Kay Cuajunco, 619-889-7865

Governor Brown signs landmark climate bills SB 32 and AB 197

California Environmental Justice Alliance applauds the leadership of Governor Brown and the Legislature on climate equity

Los Angeles, CA | September 8, 2016 — California Environmental Justice Alliance was a driving force in the passage of SB 32 and AB 197. We congratulate Senator Fran Pavley and Assemblymember Eduardo Garcia for their leadership and commitment to bold policies that protect our health and climate, and directly benefit environmental justice communities.

SB 32 creates 2030 greenhouse gas emission reduction targets and AB 197 enacts accountability reforms at the California Air Resources Board. It also directs the regulatory agency to prioritize measures that will reduce greenhouse gas emissions in environmental justice communities, and provide greater transparency through the release of data on air quality.

California Environmental Justice Alliance Co-Director Amy Vanderwarker released this statement:

"The passage of SB 32 and AB 197 demonstrate a growing recognition that people of color are on the frontlines of climate change and we urgently need to address the disproportionate burden of pollution in our most vulnerable communities. These two bills help ensure that California climate policy protects and benefits environmental justice communities and puts the state on a path to ambitiously reduce emissions over the next decade.

California set yet another global standard in the fight against climate change and maintained our national leadership. We look forward to continue working with legislators on climate policies that truly benefit and protect low-income communities and communities of color throughout California.

With California a majority people of color state, and a diverse legislature with many members who want to see environmental policy benefit and protect their districts, these historic victories demonstrate the truth to what environmental and climate justice groups have been saying for several years: to be successful, and to win on climate, we must address the impacts on communities of color. Environmental justice needs to be front and center."

###

California Environmental Justice Alliance is a statewide, community-led alliance that works to achieve environmental justice by advancing policy solutions. We unite the powerful local organizing of our members in the communities most impacted by environmental hazards – low-income communities and communities of color – to create comprehensive opportunities for change at a statewide level. We build the power of communities across California to create policies that will alleviate poverty and pollution. Together, we are growing the statewide movement for environmental health and social justice.

www.caleja.org