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Sept. 10 Readers' letters

From Mercury News readers

The latest effort to weaken one of the most important climate bills of the year, Senate leader Kevin de Leon's SB 350, is yet another example of how Democrats from districts that are directly impacted by climate change and air quality issues side with Big Oil over their constituents. Fresno Assemblyman Henry Perea is leading the charge to gut the requirement to reduce petroleum use by 50 percent. This provision would directly improve the health of residents in his district; many in the Central Valley struggle with respiratory illnesses because of transportation-related emissions, and yet he is influenced by Big Oil campaign contributions. As legislators enter the last week of negotiations, we hope they will champion SB 350 and other climate and equity bills their communities, and all of California, need.

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