WHEREAS, Bob Fletcher, Deputy Executive Officer, has officially announced his retirement after a rewarding and successful 34-year career with the Air Resources Board (ARB or Board);

WHEREAS, Bob has been instrumental in developing and implementing a wide array of pioneering air quality programs, including reformulated gasoline and diesel fuel, air toxics controls, diesel risk reduction, consumer products standards, cleaner ports and railyards, climate change regulations, the low carbon fuel standard, and many more;

WHEREAS, as Division Chief of the Planning and Technical Support Division, Bob had the pleasure of implementing many of the most contentious provisions of SB 700, which repealed agriculture's long-standing exemption from air pollution permitting. He also worked with an array of colorful stakeholders on phasing out agricultural burning in the San Joaquin Valley, and learned far more than he ever thought he would about "dairy air emissions;"

WHEREAS, the Stationary Source Division, Administrative Services Division, and Office of Information Services are conspiring to prevent Bob from retiring by respectively identifying major issues with "his" regulations, losing his retirement paperwork, and promising to keep him "connected" 24/7, as well as setting up his Facebook account;

WHEREAS, Bob is renowned for his editing skills, his opinions on the proper use of commas and his ability to find that one extra space in a thousand-page report;

WHEREAS, Bob’s priorities are evident from the pictures and mementos displayed in his office, which include two photos of his ARB colleagues, six of his wife, twelve of his grandchildren, and 21 of golden retrievers...but who’s counting;

WHEREAS, Bob always had time to have fun with his co-workers, organizing softball tournaments, potlucks, parties, and special events, and making sure that all participants were adequately nourished and fully hydrated with the appropriate libations; and

WHEREAS, his colleagues will forever be grateful to Bob for his mentoring, his support for staff, his willingness to pass on his extensive knowledge, his ethics, his commitment to a job well done, and for teaching us all that it is easy to make a tough decision as long as it is "the right thing to do."

NOW, BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that the Board Members express their deep appreciation to Bob Fletcher for his many years of dedicated service and the significant role he played in making ARB an innovative and effective world leader in air pollution control.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board wishes him a long, happy, and productive retirement with Suzanne, training Walter and Charlie for competitive flyball, focusing on lowering his golf score, cooking, attending as many Giants games as possible (without leaving his wallet on the roof of his car), and enjoying more time with friends and family.

Executed at Sacramento, California, on this 19th day of December, 2011.

Mary D. Nichols, Chairman
Barbara Leiberman
Supervisor Ron Roberts
Dorene D’Adamo
Sandra Berg

Daniel Sperling

John R. Balmes, M.D.

Alexander Sherriffs, M.D.