August 1, 2018

Mary D. Nichols, Chair
California Air Resources Board
1001 I St.
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Chair Nichols,

As you and I have discussed many times, bold action is required if we are to meet California’s climate goals.

While the state has made significant progress in expanding the use of electric, hybrid and alternative-fuel vehicles, the transportation sector continues to be the largest single contributor of greenhouse gases released into our atmosphere. These emissions account for approximately 40 percent of statewide emissions in 2016 (and even as high as 50 percent if we consider refinery and production emissions necessitated by our transportation sector).

Clearly, there is still more to be done.

As the California Air Resources Board looks for ways to meet our 5-million zero emission vehicle target by 2030, the conversion of public and private fleets to zero emission offers an important opportunity to get a large number of carbon-polluting fleet vehicles off the road.

Accordingly, I am directing the California Air Resources Board to assess the viability of new regulations to increase zero emission vehicle adoption in fleets across the state. This assessment should consider fleet categories such as rental cars, large employers, delivery vehicles as well as transportation service fleets.

As you develop these new regulations, I urge the Board to consult broadly with state agencies, local governments and private fleet operators as well as community groups and others whose lives may be affected by transportation emissions.

Sincerely,

Edmund G. Brown Jr.