



May 15, 2023

The Honorable Lena Gonzalez  
California State Senate  
1021 O Street, Suite 7720  
Sacramento, CA 95814

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**RE: SB 674 (Gonzalez) Air pollution: refineries: community air monitoring systems – SUPPORT**

Dear Senator Gonzalez,

The Health Officers Association of California (HOAC), which represents the physician health officers of California’s sixty-one city and county jurisdictions, supports your SB 674 which will strengthen the fence line monitoring system program for communities and petroleum refineries.

Health officers protect public health in their communities through disease prevention, emergency preparedness, health education and promotion, regulating environmental hazards, and advocating for programs that promote health equity. Fence line monitoring is an essential tool for protecting public health, and SB 674 will help build on previous legislation to increase transparency and reduce emissions when dangerous levels are reached.

Low-income and communities of color are disproportionately impacted by pollution from refineries and other industrial facilities. Fence line monitoring can help ensure that these communities are not unfairly burdened by pollution, and that companies are held accountable for their impact on our communities. Fence lines also provide data on emissions, which can be used to hold companies accountable for their environmental impact and can be provided to communities to help inform community action and public policy.

HOAC is dedicated to promoting practices that improve the health of all Californians. For these reasons, HOAC supports SB 674 and thanks you for introducing this important measure.

Sincerely,

Kat DeBurgh, MPH  
Executive Director  
Health Officers Association of California