

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF THE BAY AREA

An Inter-League Organization of the San Francisco Bay Area



September 2, 2006

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger State Capitol Sacramento CA 95814

Re: Please Sign AB 2444 – Congestion Management and Environmental Mitigation Fees

Dear Gov. Schwarzenegger,

The League of Women Voters of the Bay Area supports the effective functioning of regional and sub-regional agencies that protect the environment and quality of life in the Bay Area. Funding for such important activities is often not sufficient to achieve the tasks.

We support AB 2444 that would permit agencies within the San Francisco Bay Area to levy up to a \$5 fee on motor vehicle licenses for environmental protection to be used by the SF Regional Water Quality Control Board and by the Bay Area Air Quality Management District, and up to another \$5 on motor vehicle licenses to be used by county Congestion Management Authorities to continue their efforts to mitigate the traffic congestion effects of development and traffic.

We view this as an impact fee to address the adverse effect of motor vehicle use in the Bay Area, and believe that the process for determining this fact and a budget for the use of the funds by a two-thirds vote of the governing bodies, accompanied by a subsequent audit is a sufficient public process for the use of the funds. Of course, the League would intend to monitor this process and to hold these agencies accountable for the use of the funds.

We urge you to sign AB 2444 into law.

Sincerely yours,

Linda Craig, President League of Women Voters of the Bay Area

Cc: Trudy Schafer, Legislative Advocate, League of Women Voters of California