

Niello Applauds Action By CARB To Give Regulatory Relief To Off-Road Construction Equipment Owners

SACRAMENTO - Assemblyman Roger Niello today issued the following statement regarding the announced actions by the California Air Resources Board (CARB) that there will be no enforcement of the off-road diesel equipment regulations set to go into effect on March 1.

"I am encouraged that CARB has decided to take this action. California's economy is struggling to recover and the lack of construction activity has led to a dramatic decrease in diesel particulate matter anyway. It would have made no sense for the Board to enforce the March 1 compliance deadline, and I am glad that cooler heads prevailed at the Board," said Assemblyman Niello.

"I am also pleased that CARB will be holding a March 11 hearing to further evaluate modifications to the proposed rules on diesel regulations in light of the current economy." Last fall, Assemblyman Niello led an effort of 52 members of the Legislature to call for a suspension of the on and off-road diesel regulations which will require truck and equipment owners to pay for expensive retrofits and replacements of diesel engines. The bi-partisan letter sent to CARB stressed the fact that in this economic climate, it made no sense to impose these regulations on an industry that was having such a difficult time remaining viable.

"While this is a reasonable and sane step for CARB to take, my hope is that they would now also find the same sensibility in suspending the on-road diesel regulations per the letter from the Legislature last September." For more information go to:
Assemblymember.Niello@assembly.ca.gov.