

HIDDEN LANGUAGE IN VA HUD APPROPRIATIONS BILL WOULD GUT STATES' AUTHORITY TO CLEAN UP DIESEL AND GASOLINE OFF-ROAD EQUIPMENT.

What the Amendment does:

- Section 209 of the Clean Air Act would be amended to prohibit California, and other states that adopt the California program, from setting emission standards for off-road engines under 175 horsepower (e.g. lawn mowers, generators, forklifts and backhoes).

How does this affect California?

- The hidden language would stop in its tracks a California proposal to reduce lawn and garden engine emissions by 50 percent.
- By 2010, the cumulative pollution benefit of California's lawn and garden engine proposal would be equivalent to taking one million cars off the road!
- The hidden language would prevent California from requiring the clean up of cancer-causing soot emissions from existing diesel engines (<175 hp), resulting in many additional deaths and respiratory illnesses.
- Could cause California to violate its federally-required clean air plan (SIP), which depends on reduced emissions from off-road sources. This could result in a freeze on transportation improvement projects worth \$2.4 billion dollars annually.

How does this affect other states?

- Most of the pollution control technology on vehicles and engines was pioneered in California, but are now used on engines nationwide, benefiting millions of people. This language would stall progress for off-road engines.
- The current authority of States to adopt California standards would be stripped away for off-road engines.
- State programs to clean up existing dirty diesel off-road engines (<175 hp) would be stopped. There is no federal program for states to fall back on.
- Higher pollution, much more health damage and lost productivity would occur.
- **IT IS CRITICALLY IMPORTANT THAT THIS LANGUAGE NOT BE ADOPTED AS PART OF THE VA/HUD APPROPRIATIONS BILL**

**California Air Resources Board
September 3, 2003**