

STAPPA / ALAPCO

STATE AND TERRITORIAL  
AIR POLLUTION PROGRAM  
ADMINISTRATORS

ASSOCIATION OF  
LOCAL AIR POLLUTION  
CONTROL OFFICIALS

June 14, 2005

S. WILLIAM BECKER  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Honorable George V. Voinovich  
Chairman  
U.S. Senate  
Committee on Environment and Public Works  
Subcommittee on Clean Air, Climate Change and Nuclear Safety  
415 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Voinovich,

On behalf the State and Territorial Air Pollution Program Administrators (STAPPA) and the Association of Local Air Pollution Control Officials (ALAPCO) – the national associations of state and local air pollution control agencies in 53 states and territories and more than 165 metropolitan areas across the country – I am pleased to offer support for the Diesel Emissions Reduction Act of 2005 and to commend your leadership in introducing this legislation and in working with a broad coalition of diverse stakeholders to draft it.

Emissions from dirty diesel engines pose serious threats to public health and the environment. These emissions are not only substantial contributors to unhealthy levels of ozone and fine particulate matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>), they cause or exacerbate unacceptably high levels of toxic air pollution in most areas of the country. Although our nation has taken significant action to reduce emissions from new highway and nonroad diesel engines, and additional federal measures are planned to address new diesel marine and locomotive engines, several critical opportunities remain for achieving further reductions in diesel emissions. Chief among them is cleaning up existing diesel engines by retrofitting these engines with new emission control technologies. By authorizing funds for grants and loans to states and other organizations for the purpose of reducing emissions from diesel engines, the Diesel Emissions Reduction Act of 2005 will help states and localities achieve their air quality goals, including attaining and maintaining health-based National Ambient Air Quality Standards for ozone and PM<sub>2.5</sub> and reducing exposure to toxic air pollution.

STAPPA and ALAPCO are pleased to support this bill and look forward to working with you and other stakeholders as it proceeds through the legislative process.

Sincerely,



S William Becker