

## Redondo Beach Chamber of Commerce (Mara Santos)

Redondo Beach's coastal economy depends heavily on tourism, hospitality, retail, and small service businesses. These sectors rely on regional travel and consumer spending from visitors throughout Southern California. Transportation costs play a direct role in visitor activity and local business performance.

The proposed amendments would tighten the emissions cap and increase compliance costs for fuel suppliers. Higher gasoline prices can discourage discretionary travel and reduce customer traffic for restaurants, hotels, and local retailers in coastal communities.

The Chamber is also concerned about the continued loss of in state refining capacity and the potential for increased reliance on imported fuels. Greater dependence on imported refined products can introduce additional supply volatility and price instability.

CARB should carefully evaluate the economic consequences of the proposed amendments and ensure that climate policies do not place disproportionate burdens on tourism dependent local economies.



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March 7, 2026

Honorable Lauren Sanchez, Chair  
California Air Resources Board  
1001 I Street  
Sacramento, California 95814

**Re: Opposition to Proposed Amendments to the Cap on Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Market-Based Compliance Mechanisms Regulation**

Dear Chair Sanchez:

The Redondo Beach Chamber of Commerce represents businesses that support the tourism and hospitality economy of one of Southern California's most active coastal destinations.

Restaurants, hotels, retail stores, charter operators, and small service providers form the backbone of our local economy. These businesses depend on consumer travel and discretionary spending from visitors across the region.

The proposed Cap and Invest amendments raise significant concerns for communities that rely on tourism and regional mobility.

The proposed rule would tighten the emissions cap beginning in 2027 and remove roughly 118 million allowances through 2030. This reduction will increase compliance costs for fuel suppliers and place additional upward pressure on gasoline prices.

Transportation costs directly influence tourism behavior. Most visitors traveling to coastal communities such as Redondo Beach arrive by automobile. When gasoline prices rise, discretionary travel declines and local businesses experience immediate reductions in customer traffic.

At the same time, hospitality businesses face increased delivery costs, higher operating expenses, and rising energy bills.

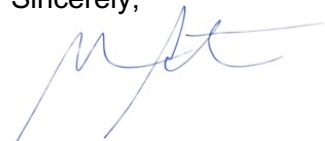
The proposed amendments risk compounding these economic pressures by increasing fuel costs across the broader economy.

Redondo Beach businesses strongly support environmental stewardship and responsible climate policy. However, regulatory decisions that increase energy costs without addressing supply constraints will ultimately harm the small businesses that form the foundation of California's local economies.

The Redondo Beach Chamber urges CARB to reconsider the pace of allowance reductions and to revise the proposed amendments before final adoption.

Policies that increase transportation costs must be evaluated carefully to ensure that they do not unintentionally harm communities that depend on regional tourism and consumer travel.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Mara Santos', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

**Mara Santos**

President and CEO

Redondo Beach Chamber of Commerce