

# CALIFORNIA INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE COUNCIL

September 10, 2008

The Honorable Arnold Schwarzenegger  
Governor, State of California  
State Capitol  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: SB 1386 (Lowenthal) – Request for Signature**

Dear Governor Schwarzenegger:

On behalf of the California Industrial Hygiene Council, I am writing to express our support for **SB 1386 (Lowenthal)** which would require that every dwelling unit intended for human occupancy in California have a carbon monoxide alarm starting in July, 2010 for single family homes, and all others upon completion of the 2010 Building and Standards Code.

Carbon monoxide (CO) is the leading cause of accidental poisoning deaths in the United States. Often called a silent killer, carbon monoxide is a colorless, odorless, deadly gas. It is responsible for more than 500 unintentional deaths and approximately 15,000 emergency room visits each year in the United States.

The single most effective safety device available to reduce injuries and fatalities related to carbon monoxide poisonings is a CO alarm which can be purchased for less than \$30.00 and is widely available at local retail establishments and on-line. A CO alarm in the home can give families an important life-saving warning when concentrations of carbon monoxide reach dangerous levels. It is estimated that CO alarms may prevent half of reported deaths from occurring.

Thank you for your commitment to saving California lives. We respectfully ask for your signature on this measure.

Sincerely,

Catherine Barankin  
Public Policy Director  
CIHC

CC: Senator Alan Lowenthal

2220 Capitol Avenue, Sacramento, CA 95816 (916) 447-7341

