

State of California  
AIR RESOURCES BOARD

Resolution No. 05-28

March 17, 2005

Agenda Item No. 05-3-3

WHEREAS, in 2002 the Legislature enacted Assembly Bill 1173 (Stats. 2002; Chapter 987) which requires the Air Resources Board to prepare a report on indoor air pollution in California;

WHEREAS, Assembly Bill 1173 added section 39930 to the Health and Safety Code;

WHEREAS, Health and Safety Code section 39930 requires the report to contain a broad scope of information on many aspects of indoor air pollution, including information on common indoor pollutants and their sources; the potential health impacts of indoor pollutants; existing regulations and practices; options for mitigation in schools, homes, and non-industrial workplaces; and state and federal efforts related to control of biological and radiological substances;

WHEREAS, through three public review periods and meetings with other state agencies and interested stakeholders, staff have consulted with, and obtained comments from, the Department of Health Services, the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment, the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission, other state agencies, and numerous stakeholders and members of the interested public;

WHEREAS, as required by Health and Safety Code section 39930(c), the report was reviewed by a scientific peer review panel comprised of University of California scientists, who concur that indoor air pollution is not currently well addressed by governments at the national, state, or local level;

WHEREAS, indoor air pollution causes serious health effects, including cancer, premature death, asthma, and other respiratory disease;

WHEREAS, indoor air pollution has been ranked high relative to other environmental problems in state and federal comparative risk assessments; this is because there are numerous sources of pollutants indoors that contribute to elevated indoor pollutant concentrations that pose significant health risks, and Californians spend an average of 87 percent of their time indoors;

WHEREAS, indoor sources of some traditional ambient air pollutants can cause indoor concentrations to exceed State ambient air quality standards;

WHEREAS, indoor sources of other pollutants such as formaldehyde, environmental tobacco smoke, polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, radon, and biological contaminants can contribute to indoor concentrations that can cause known adverse health effects, including cancer and premature death;

WHEREAS, the cost of both fatal and non-fatal quantifiable impacts due to indoor air pollution in California homes, schools, and offices is estimated to total \$45 billion per year;

WHEREAS, although state and federal agencies have authority over some aspects of indoor air quality, there is no comprehensive program to protect air quality within residences, schools, or public buildings in California, and there are few government standards restricting emissions from common sources of indoor pollutants;

WHEREAS, methods to reduce indoor air pollution include limitation of indoor sources and emissions, adequate ventilation, proper operation and maintenance of buildings, and public and professional education and outreach;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board concurs with the findings and recommendations of the report to the California Legislature entitled *Indoor Air Pollution in California*, dated February, 2005 (the "Report").

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board hereby approves the Report and directs the Executive Officer to forward the Report to the Legislature as soon as possible.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board supports an outreach and public education program that includes an effort focused on professionals, including health professionals, teachers, school facility managers, and others who must be able to identify and remedy indoor air quality problems.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board encourages the Department of Industrial Relations (Cal-OSHA) to explore mechanisms to assist schools in complying with state regulations, especially workplace regulations related to building operation and maintenance that impact indoor air quality;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board directs staff to promote "Best Practices" for the design, construction, operation, and maintenance of school facilities, state buildings, and general construction, in conjunction with other State agencies and relevant private sector groups;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board supports indoor air quality research and technology development to answer remaining questions regarding the sources and health effects of indoor air pollution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board directs the Executive Officer to forward this resolution and the Report to those agencies whose authority and actions can affect different aspects of indoor air quality: the State Department of Health Services, the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment, the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission, the Department of Industrial Relations, and others as deemed appropriate.

I hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of Resolution 05-28, as adopted by the Air Resources Board.

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Lori Andreoni, Clerk of the Board