

February 17, 2026

The Honorable David Alvarez
California State Assembly
1021 O Street, Suite 5320
Sacramento, California 95814

Dear Assemblymember Alvarez:

Thank you for your letter dated December 8, 2025, urging the California Air Resources Board (CARB) to consider authorizing E85 conversion kits certified by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and to explore additional strategies to reduce fuel costs for Californians. We appreciate your leadership and commitment to expanding cleaner, more affordable fuel options while maintaining California's environmental protections.

CARB aftermarket regulations do not preclude the use of E85 conversion kits and, in fact, acknowledge their potential to deliver cost savings. Current CARB aftermarket regulations permit the use of alternative fuel conversion systems, including E85 kits. Historically, CARB has approved several applications¹ for alternative fuel conversion systems. Most notably, CARB has received a very high interest in EV conversions, approving many of those kits in recent history. However, since 2019, CARB has received only a few applications for E85 conversion kits. CARB has been actively working with one of those companies on its application since August 2025. CARB has held discussions over the past couple of years with Pearson Fuels, a producer of E85 fuel. However, Pearson Fuels is not a manufacturer of E85 conversion kits and has not submitted an application for certification to date. This limited number of applications, combined with low market interest, has likely contributed to the scarcity of certified kits in California.

Please keep in mind that CARB's California-specific regulations governing the approval of these systems ensure that any modifications to California certified vehicles continue to meet their original emissions and durability standards. However, CARB recognizes that this may impact the availability of these systems for California motorists. Considering this, CARB has reached out to the USEPA to discuss E85 conversion kit applications made to them and has learned that USEPA has not received any E85 conversion applications which would apply to any MY 2020 or newer vehicles. CARB will continue to explore possible areas of

¹ [Alternate Fuel Retrofit Systems EO List](#)

cooperation and coordination with USEPA, along with learning if there are manufacturers that have not made applications for California approval of systems they have approved.

If you have any questions, please contact David Ernest García, Ph.D., Legislative Director, by email at David.Garcia@arb.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lauren Sanchez". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Lauren" and the last name "Sanchez" clearly distinguishable.

Lauren Sanchez, Chair

cc: The Honorable Corey Jackson
California State Assembly
1021 O Street, Suite 6120
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The Honorable Jacqui Irwin
California State Assembly
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The Honorable Tim Grayson
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The Honorable Blanca Rubio
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The Honorable Cottie-Petrie Norris
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The Honorable LaShae Sharp-Collins
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The Honorable Rhodesia Ransom
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The Honorable Jose Luis Solache, Jr.
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Steven S. Cliff, Ph.D., Executive Officer, California Air Resources Board

David Ernest García, Ph.D., Legislative Director, California Air Resources Board