

State of California

AIR RESOURCES BOARD

RESOLUTION NO. 04-45

WHEREAS, Senator Byron Sher has served with honor and distinction in the California State Legislature for the past 24 years, with election to the State Assembly in 1980 and election to the State Senate in 1996;

WHEREAS, Senator Sher has provided unparalleled environmental protection leadership in both the Assembly and Senate, serving as Assembly Natural Resources Committee Chair from 1985 to 1995 and as Senate Environmental Quality Committee Chair from 1996 through this year;

WHEREAS, Senator Sher has been a tireless advocate and inventive author of air quality legislation and policies to attain and maintain health protective air quality in the State;

WHEREAS, Senator Sher has authored numerous ground-breaking air quality protection laws, including the California Clean Air Act of 1988, the Atmospheric Acidity Protection Program, CEQA Reform, the Protect California Air Act of 2003, as well as legislation addressing global warming, particulate matter, permit streamlining and small business assistance;

WHEREAS, the California Clean Air Act of 1988 provided the framework for air quality management in California from the 1990's to the present, and set the stage for the adoption and implementation of the federal Clean Air Act of 1990;

WHEREAS, Senator Sher understood the need not only to have cutting-edge air pollution control programs but to support them with adequate resources: during his tenure in the Assembly he authored AB 2766, which provided long-term funding for local air districts to address mobile sources of air pollution; and as Chairman of Senate Budget Subcommittee No. 2 on Resources, Environmental Protection, Public Safety, and Energy, Senator Sher consistently fought for the funds needed not only to develop, but to implement and enforce California's air quality programs;

WHEREAS, by authoring the Protect California Air Act of 2003 Senator Sher has protected California from any attempt to weaken our new source permitting program; this act alone will benefit untold future generations of Californians;

WHEREAS, many of the programs that resulted from Senator Sher's visionary and courageous legislation have been used as a model for other governments and organizations throughout the country and world;

WHEREAS, Senator Sher's personal integrity, creative skill, accessibility, and unstinting dedication to public service have nurtured and inspired hundreds of Air Resources Board employees and given us the tools, strength, and commitment to fight for air quality.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board expresses its fervent gratitude for the significant contribution Senator Sher has made to the body of law concerning air pollution in California and for his profound contribution to improving air quality for Californians and other citizens around the world.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board wishes Byron the best during the next phase of his life, and urges him not to suffer too much nostalgia for the long days fighting for the protection of California's air quality.

Alan C. Lloyd, Ph.D.
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