

April 30, 2013

Senator Bill Monning
State Capitol Room 4066
Sacramento, CA 90301

e-mailed to Kathy.Smith@sen.ca.gov

Re: SB 193 - SUPPORT

Dear Senator Monning:

The Bay Area Healthy 880 Communities is writing in strong support of SB 193. **Bay Area Healthy 880 Communities** is a grassroots community organization formed to educate and organize our diverse residents along the 880 Corridor whose health and environment are impacted by pollution sources. Our mission is to educate and mobilize residents to advocate for and achieve environmental health and justice by reducing air/chemical pollution threats and promoting pollution prevention, clean technologies, and safe jobs.

Current law requires HESIS to provide information of practical use to employers, employees, and others on toxic workplace hazards. But it does **not** give HESIS the ability to find out where any toxics are being used in California, thus undermining HESIS ability to provide early warnings. SB 193 would require chemical manufacturers and others in the chain of distribution to provide, upon written request, the names and addresses of customers who have purchased specified toxics or commercial products containing those toxics, **and** SB 193 also assures that the customer lists will remain confidential.

SB 193 assures that HESIS can reach and advice employers on measures needed to protect their workers, including information on safer alternatives, when HESIS has information regarding negative health impacts of certain toxic chemicals. HESIS will be able to target those at risk rather than merely posting its valuable guidance to limit exposure and prevent disease on the web with no guarantee it will reach those in need. As workers are often exposed to toxics whose health effects are not all known, HESIS's ability to act quickly and efficiently is vital to protect workers' health and safety.

We thank you for authoring this important bill.

Sincerely,

Wafaa Aborashed
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