

Submitter: Julie Voelker-Morris

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Energy and Environment

Measure: SB525

Gas-powered lawn equipment, specifically the 2-cycle motors of gas-powered leaf blowers (GPLBs), have continued to be a dramatic nuisance that negatively affects our climate, emits harmful air pollutants and produces noise levels that are damaging to hearing. The consequences for human health have been well documented and disproportionately affect landscape workers and underserved communities, making this a significant environmental justice issue. Overuse of blowers is evident as operators blow one last leaf or another pile of dust.

Science indicates excessive noise is detrimental to mental health wellbeing and impedes the ability to learn in schools and work in both homes and offices. The frequency of GPLBs is such that it carries farther than other noise makers.

Please support SB 525. Climate change and its consequences are no longer someone else's problem. We cannot continue to offer insults to our environment and physical and mental health.

Thank you for your service and attention to this critical issue.