



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Esha Mathew (916) 319-2061

April 24, 2017

Natural Resources Committee Approves Medina Bill to Safeguard Community Health

SACRAMENTO – The Assembly Committee on Natural Resources passed Assembly Bill 890 by Assemblymember Jose Medina with a 7 – 2 vote. AB 890 would address a loophole in the initiative process that allows projects to bypass necessary environmental review.

“Due to a loophole in the law, some development projects can proceed without community engagement or environmental review,” said Assemblymember Medina. “This could worsen our air quality, damage our health, and undermine California’s environmental goals.”

Currently, a qualifying voter initiative goes to the city council who then can respond in several ways. One possibility is to adopt the initiative without a public vote or an environmental review of the project. Consequently, projects can be immediately approved without any public disclosure of environmental impact. This loophole has been increasingly used to approve projects that have vast regional effects on the environment.

“We all want economic success and development for California,” Medina added. “But success for the state should not cost a community its voice or its health.”

AB 890 will proceed to the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

Assemblymember Medina proudly represents California’s 61st Assembly District, which consists of Riverside, Moreno Valley, and Perris.

Website of Assemblymember Jose Medina: <http://asmdc.org/Medina>



###