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## Zero-Emission Buses Move a Giant Step Closer to Becoming Commonplace in California

SACRAMENTO—In a significant move toward adopting a rule to accelerate the transition to electric buses at public transit agencies around the state, the California Air Resources Board heard testimony about the rule Friday and signaled that it will be ready to vote to adopt the rule soon.

The rule, called the Innovative Clean Transit Rule, requires public transit agencies to gradually replace old conventionally fueled buses that emit pollution with electric buses. There are about 13,000 buses owned by public transit agencies in California. The rule would result in all of those buses being zero-emission buses by 2040.

After hearing from members of the public, environmental and public health group representatives, labor union representative and other speak in favor of the rule, the board directed the agency staff to prepare the necessary legal documents for formal adoption of the rule later this year, most likely at the January board meeting.

**Statement by Kathryn Phillips, Sierra Club California Director:**

"This rule has been many years in the making. Now the technology is fully developed and the state hosts about half a dozen zero-emission bus manufacturers.

"This rule will cut air pollution and climate pollution, reduce California's dependence on polluting transportation fuels and provide a more pleasant and quieter ride for transit users. It will also help stimulate a growing manufacturing sector that provides good jobs in California.

"It's exciting that the board has reached this point and I look forward to seeing the formal adoption of the rule. It will be good for the environment, public health and the economy.

"Once again, California is leading the way."

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*Sierra Club California is the legislative and regulatory advocacy arm of Sierra Club's 13 local chapters in California, representing more than 400,000 members and supporters.*