



DRA

*Division of Ratepayer Advocates
California Public Utilities Commission*

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Dana S. Appling, Director

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April 17, 2007

Honorable Lois Wolk
State Capitol, Room 3120
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 1234 (Wolk) Support

Dear Assemblymember Wolk:

The Division of Ratepayer Advocates (DRA) supports your AB 1234, which would require the seller or transferor of specified residential dwelling unit or units to disclose by written statement whether the property being sold or transferred has an old floor or wall gas furnace. In the event there is an old furnace this bill would require the furnace be replaced.

This bill would also require the California Public Utilities Commission, in consultation with the Low-Income Oversight Board and energy utilities that participate in the California Alternate Rates for Energy (CARE) program to create a program to replace old floor and wall gas furnaces in residential dwelling units occupied by ratepayers eligible for the CARE program. This program would initially provide financial support for replacing old gas furnaces when a residential dwelling unit is sold or transferred.

AB 1234 would protect ratepayers by ensuring properties are sold or transferred with safe and efficient gas furnaces. This bill would also make gas furnaces available to CARE program participants. As a result, ratepayers would have lower energy bills and be protected from future rising natural gas and electricity prices and shortages. Moreover, this bill would help curtail emissions of carbon monoxide and carbon dioxide from older furnaces, protecting the environment and the safety of ratepayers.

DRA supports your bill's efforts to protect consumers and the environment and looks forward to working with you to pass this important legislation.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss this matter further, please call Matthew Marcus our Legislative Director at (916) 327-3455 or me at (415) 703-2544.

Sincerely,

Dana S. Appling, Director
Division of Ratepayer Advocates