



RURAL COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES
OF CALIFORNIA

September 5, 2024

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Governor, State of California
1021 O Street, Suite 9000
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Assembly Bill 3179 (Carrillo) — REQUEST FOR SIGNATURE

Dear Governor Newsom,

On behalf of the Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC), we respectfully request your signature on Assembly Bill 3179(Carrillo). This measure would exempt certain telecommunications vehicles used by emergency telecommunications providers from the provisions of the Advanced Clean Fleets (ACF) regulations until January 1, 2030. RCRC is an association of forty rural California counties and the RCRC Board of Directors is comprised of elected supervisors from each of those member counties.

RCRC member counties have suffered numerous emergencies in the recent past due to climate change, including catastrophic wildfires and disastrous flooding events. During situations, it is imperative that communications methods be as uninterrupted as possible to facilitate evacuations and other emergency actions. During these types of emergencies, rural communities in particular are prone to power outages, sometimes for several days as utilities attempt to prevent fires and other disasters from spreading even further. Fast-tracking requirements to electrify telecom vehicles that are used in emergency events will endanger vital communications services during California's most vulnerable moments.

AB 3179 will address this emergency communication challenge by including bucket trucks used by telecom providers during emergency operations in the emergency exemption provisions of the ACF regulations until January 1, 2030, rightfully recognizing them as emergency service vehicles. This is crucial to allow for the use of current vehicles while the electric vehicle (EV) manufacturing

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industry catches up to the demand for emergency vehicles at a reasonable price point. It also allows the state of California more time to deploy EV charging capability and address the reliability of the electrical grid statewide so that EVs can remain reliably charged even during emergency situations.

For the above reasons, RCRC respectfully requests your signature on AB 3179. Please do not hesitate to contact me at sheaton@rcrcnet.org with any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Staci Heaton", written in a cursive style.

STACI HEATON
Senior Policy Advocate

cc: The Honorable Juan Carrillo, California State Assembly