



# CALIFORNIA FARM BUREAU FEDERATION

EXECUTIVE OFFICES

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April 23, 2009

Assemblymember Felipe Fuentes  
Chair, Assembly Utilities & Commerce Committee  
State Capitol  
Room #5136  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: SB 222 (Adams; Ma) - SUPPORT**

Dear Assemblymember Fuentes:

The California Farm Bureau Federation wishes to express its strong support for AB 222, co-authored by Fiona Ma and Anthony Adams.

The implementation of the clean 21st century technologies for the conversion of carbonaceous wastes to advanced biofuels, electricity and other biobased products, as addressed in AB 222 will be of immense benefit to California agriculture.

We believe that these technologies will provide a practical alternative to the open-field burning of agricultural residues, the banning of which has created an economic crisis for agriculture through much of the state.

The efficient and economic use of the state's agricultural residues as a feedstock for renewable energy production will create a new revenue source for our farmers without having to change their crops

It will offer an environmentally-sensitive alternative to the agricultural land-spreading of sewage sludge, and could contribute to improved air quality in the San Joaquin Valley.

And it will enable California's farmers, not just Midwest corn growers, to benefit from the production of ethanol. Using these new technologies, it is theoretically possible for the state to meet its mandate for 10% ethanol blending from biofuels produced locally from feedstocks grown within the state, without in any way reducing or in any way impacting the state's output of agricultural food resources.

AB 222 therefore holds the potential of significant economic benefit to California agriculture. We strongly support its passage.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Matteis". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "R." and the last name "Matteis" clearly visible.

**RICH MATTEIS**  
Administrator

cc: The Honorable Anthony Adams  
The Honorable Fiona Ma  
The Honorable Sam Blakeslee  
The Honorable Nathan Fletcher  
The Honorable Felipe Fuentes  
The Honorable Cathleen Galgiani  
The Honorable Danny Gilmore  
The Honorable Tony Mendoza  
The Honorable Cameron Smyth  
The Honorable Alberto Torrico  
Members, Assembly, Utilities & Commerce Committee  
Gina Adams, Senior Consultant, Assembly Utilities & Commerce Committee  
Assembly Republican Caucus Consultant