



Statement to Media

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California Cattlemen's Association Statement on ARB Truck Rule Decision

SACRAMENTO – December 12, 2008 – California Cattlemen's Association President Tom Talbot, DVM, a Bishop, Calif., beef cattle producer, made the following statement regarding the passage of the California Air Resources Board On-Road Diesel Truck Rule provisions to provide relief to California ranchers and farmers who own and operate large diesel vehicles.

“This regulation will impact all of California's large diesel truck fleet, but the California Cattlemen's Association is pleased that ARB included common sense recognition of agriculture's unique use patterns of diesel vehicles. CCA has worked to see that the ranchers who minimally use large diesel vehicles in their ranching operations can come into compliance without being unduly impacted by this rule, which otherwise would have been excessively costly to cattle producers.”

In the hearing, ARB approved a regulation requiring the retrofit and/or replacement of California's large diesel truck fleet, that recognized that farmers and ranchers are unique in the way they operate their vehicles as most trucks in agriculture are used seasonally, drive few miles and are used for very specialized jobs on the farm or ranch.

Agricultural producers cannot pass on the costs associated with imposed regulations such as this rule because agricultural products are sold on the open market and are subject to global market fluctuations. The agricultural provisions in the rule provide an appropriate timeline for those who own and operate certain specialty farm vehicles and trucks used exclusively in agriculture under 25,000 miles a year.

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Founded in 1917, the California Cattlemen's Association (CCA) represents California's 1.35 billion dollar beef cattle industry in legislative and regulatory affairs, and remains the number one voice for the industry today. CCA is an affiliate of the National Cattlemen's Beef Association, which represents America's cattle farmers and ranchers.