



THE ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE AIR QUALITY MONITORING ACT

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SUPPORTERS

WE ACT for Environmental Justice; Dr. Sacoby Wilson, Director of the University of Maryland, College Park, School of Public Health, Center for Community Engagement, Environmental Justice, and Health; Gloria Walton, President and CEO of The Solutions Project; American Lung Association, American Thoracic Society, Clean Air Task Force, Aclima, Thermo Fisher Scientific

QUOTES

"It is critical that we support the frontline communities most impacted by air pollution. Investment in hyperlocal mobile air monitoring within the Environmental Justice Air Quality Monitoring Act is important for environmental justice communities and will help reduce the impacts of transportation related emissions on public health."

-Peggy Shepard, Co-founder, Executive Director of WE ACT For Environmental Justice.

"I strongly support the Environmental Justice Air Quality Monitoring Act. People of color have historically been exposed to disproportionately high levels of transportation-related pollution such as particulate matter, nitrogen dioxide (NO₂), and volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and have borne higher health burdens and risks (asthma, cancer, heart disease) as a result. This is particularly true in communities impacted by goods movement (ports, rail, truck traffic) in places like North Charleston, SC, Houston, TX, Savannah, GA, Richmond, CA, New Orleans, LA, Detroit, MI, Newark, NJ, among many others. But conventional air quality monitors are unable to identify and map pollution at the community-scale. With the legislation's pilot program on hyperlocal mobile air monitoring,

communities across the country will finally have the tools to understand air pollution at the block-by-block level that affects their daily lives and health."

-Dr. Sacoby Wilson, Associate Professor at the University of Maryland, Director of the Center for Community Engagement, Environmental Justice, and Health

"Environmental justice communities have been calling for healthy air and good jobs for decades. The Environmental Justice Air Quality Monitoring Act shows that these communities are being heard. The legislation is a step in the right direction to support communities most impacted by air pollution, and the investment in street-level air quality monitoring will allow communities to identify and then address the environmental and health inequities in their respective neighborhoods."

-Gloria Walton, President and CEO of The Solutions Project

"Everyone deserves healthy air. Unfortunately, many communities have been left behind when it comes to cleaning up air pollution. The areas near pollution sources are more likely to be underinvested and to be home to communities of color. Those residents deserve to know what is in the air they're breathing. The Environmental Justice Air Quality Monitoring Act is an important step in reducing the air pollution burden for those at greatest risk. Thank you, Chair Castor, Rep. Blunt Rochester and Rep. Torres for working to ensure clean air for all."

-Harold Wimmer, President & CEO of the American Lung Association.

"The ATS strongly supports the legislation introduced by Chair Castor (D-FL), Rep. Blunt Rochester (D-DE), and Rep. Torres (D-NY) to improve local monitoring of air pollution. We know that the burden of air pollution exposures is not shared equally by U.S. communities. Low-income and communities of color are disproportionately impacted by air pollution. When enacted, this legislation will use existing technology to give communities the data they need to understand their local air pollution exposure risks and the information to do something about it."

- Jack Harkema DVM, PhD – Chair of the American Thoracic Society Environmental Health Policy Committee.

"CATF supports the Environmental Justice Air Quality Monitoring Act that will expand our knowledge of local impacts of air pollution in disadvantaged communities. The initiative arrives at a time when EPA is reviewing air quality standards, a process that prompted the Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee (CASAC) to highlight deficiencies in the air quality monitoring network that hinder the study of sub-daily, multipollutant patterns with biologically relevant exposure times. Data collected

through this program would fill a critical need to inform our understanding of the human health effects of acute air pollution exposures.”

-John Graham, Senior Scientist, Clean Air Task Force

"As a result of structural injustices we don't all breathe the same air. For too long, communities of color have faced disproportionate exposure to air pollution and the resulting health burdens. This legislation will drastically improve the availability of air quality measurements -- taken at block-level resolution -- so that resources can be prioritized to clean the air and improve public health in environmental justice communities across the country.”

-Davida Herzl, CEO, Aclima

“For many communities, air pollution remains a difficult challenge that encumbers the health and well-being of their residents. As the world leader in serving science, Thermo Fisher Scientific has partnered with communities around the world to provide solutions that help them identify dangerous levels of pollutants so they can be quickly addressed. We’re pleased to see Congress working to ensure more communities have access to the technology to help improve air quality for everyone.”

-Miguel Faustino, President, Chemical Analysis, Thermo Fisher Scientific