



ACCC Legislative Alert!

July 1, 2014

Good Afternoon Car Guys & Gals,

Senate Bill 1183, a legislative bill that looks to increase vehicle license fees (VLF) by \$5.00 to fund maintenance and improvements on bicycle trails and paths as well as develop new bicycle trails and paths has passed out of the California Senate; the Assembly Transportation Committee; and is currently scheduled to be heard in the Assembly Appropriations Committee. Californians have some of the highest taxes and fees in the nation and we certainly don't need any additional fees or taxes especially to fund bicycle infrastructure.

The Association of California Car Clubs (ACCC) is opposed to this legislation unless it is amended with an exemption for vehicles 35 years old and older. We believe that this bill is unfair to classic car collectors & owners. Most of our classic cars are rarely driven, most less than 1000 miles per year and as a result have little or no impact on the environment or the infrastructure. This bill treats collector cars in the same manner as a vehicle that is driven thousands of miles a year. Many California car collectors own multiple vehicles and this surcharge – added to the existing and contemplated taxes, fees, and surcharges – would be substantial.

I'm writing you because we need your help in getting this bill amended and if not amended killed. We need to write letters to the committee to let them know how we feel about this legislation. Please see sample letter on page 2 for your use.

Please review and personalize the letter with your car club letterhead or your name if an individual and send via email to the ACCC lobbyist John Caldwell at John@ppallc.com. John will deliver the letters personally to the Chair and Members of the Assembly Appropriations Committee. We must receive letters prior to July 31, 2014 so please don't delay...

Thanks for your support and help and please contact me at 530-748-6181 or accpres@gmail.com with questions and/or concerns.

Rex Roden
President-ACCC

The ACCC...Representing the California Collector Car Hobby Since 1972



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SAMPLE LETTER

Your Letterhead Here



Date:



To: Assembly Member Mike Gatto, Chair
Members, Assembly Appropriations Committee



FROM:

RE: SB 1183 (DeSaulnier) - Oppose Unless Amended



The _____ representing _____ members in the _____ area urges your opposition to SB 1183 (DeSaulnier) unless it is amended to exempt cars older than 35 years old.



SB 1183 would authorize some local governments to institute a \$5 per vehicle registration “surcharge” to pay for “bicycle infrastructure.” We believe that this is unfair to classic car collectors. Most of our classic cars are rarely driven, most less than 1000 miles per year and as a result have little or no impact on the environment or the infrastructure. This bill treats collector cars in the same manner as a vehicle that is driven thousands of miles a year.



Our members own multiple vehicles and this surcharge – added to the existing and contemplated fees and surcharges – would be substantial. The present vehicle registration fee is \$46, plus an additional \$23 for additional California Highway Patrol personnel. Last year AB 8 continued a tax of \$3 per car with as much as \$6 per car added based on location. And just last year, AB 1002 (Bloom) proposed a \$6 per car fee to pay for sustainable communities. In addition, according to the Senate Appropriations Committee analysis, local jurisdictions “can impose separate fees and surcharges in their respective jurisdictions for a variety of special programs, including up to \$2 for programs to address vehicle thefts, up to \$19 to mitigate vehicular air emissions and \$1 to abate abandoned vehicles.”



We have proposed to the author an amendment that would exempt from the \$5 surcharge any vehicle with a model year 35 years old or older. This is a clean, simple way to exempt classic cars. It requires no test on the part of the taxing agency. Given the fact that the average life span of a car in this country is about eleven years, those who have cars older than 35 years are either collectors or very poor.



We urge you to oppose SB 1183 unless it is amended to exempt cars 35 years old or older.



Cc: Senator Mark DeSaulnier

