KAMALA D. HARRIS
U.S. Senator for California



Clean School Bus Act

Over 25 million American children, as well as thousands of school bus drivers, breathe polluted air on traditional diesel yellow school buses every day. The air inside a school bus can be even worse than the air pollution from ambient traffic. Breathing this polluted air every day to and from school can have a negative impact on student health and attendance, particularly for vulnerable students with asthma and other respiratory conditions.

Switching to electric school buses, with little to no local air pollution, can improve health and educational outcomes. Studies have indicated that reduced exposure to air pollution from school buses can result in decreased rates of asthma and student test gains in math and English.

Simultaneously, electrifying school buses can help combat the climate crisis. Transportation accounts for the largest share of greenhouse gas emissions in the United States. School buses, which make up roughly 90 percent of the nation's bus fleet, traveled roughly 3.3 billion miles in 2017. While total greenhouse gas emission reductions depend on the electricity grid, with zero tailpipe emissions and the potential for zero total emissions, electric buses already produce fewer emissions than diesel buses in every state. The life cycle of electric buses is also cost effective given the reduced pollution benefits as well as lower operations and maintenance costs.

With 475,000 school buses in operation, U.S. Senator Kamala D. Harris (D-CA) is introducing the *Clean School Bus Act* to accelerate the electrification of the nation's school bus fleet.

The *Clean School Bus Act* will:

- Provide grants of up to $2 million to replace diesel school buses with electric school buses, invest in charging infrastructure, and support workforce development.

- Give priority to applications that serve lower-income students, replace the most polluting buses, and leverage the funding to further decrease pollution and emissions, including through partnerships with local utilities.

- Authorize $200 million annually at the Department of Energy to fund a Clean School Bus Grant Program from 2020 to 2024 to spur increased adoption of this clean technology.

The *Clean School Bus Act* is supported by Chispa – Clean Buses for Healthy Ninos, Green for All, National Resources Defense Council, California Association of School Transportation Officials, South Coast Air Quality Management District, Hispanic Access Foundation