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RESOLUTION  
IN SUPPORT OF  
DIESEL POWER MOTOR VEHICLE INSPECTION PROGRAM

WHEREAS the Clark County District Board of Health has created an Ad Hoc Visual Air Quality Committee to study sources, causes, and possible solutions of urban haze in the Las Vegas Valley; and

WHEREAS the Ad Hoc Committee has learned that particulate or soot emissions from diesel powered motor vehicles are a significant contributor to visibility impairment in the Las Vegas Valley and in other metropolitan areas; and

WHEREAS particulate emissions from diesel vehicles contribute to the overall average annual levels of inhalable particulate for which the ambient air standards are exceeded in portions of the Las Vegas Valley;

WHEREAS the Environmental Protection Agency has required the manufacturers of diesel engines for heavy duty trucks and buses to meet exhaust smoke standards since 1974;

WHEREAS according to in-use audits of excessively smoking vehicles reviewed by the Engine Manufacturers Association which represents heavy duty engine manufacturers, 80% of the heavy duty vehicles with excess smoke have evidence of tampering with the smoke control systems installed by the engine manufacturer;

WHEREAS the Nevada State Legislature has provided that the State Environmental Commission and the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) have the authority to regulate the inspection of carbon monoxide, hydrocarbon and smoke emission from gasoline powered vehicles, but not to regulate the inspection of smoke (particulate) emissions from diesel powered vehicles;



WHEREAS the use of a dynamometer to evaluate smoke from diesel vehicle engines has been determined to be the most accurate way to compare the actual vehicle smoke levels to the smoke standards for which the engines have been certified by EPA;

WHEREAS diesel smoke inspection programs are operating in California, Arizona and Colorado, and are being considered in other states;

WHEREAS in the first quarter of 1990, 16 percent of the diesel vehicles in the Denver, Colorado/Front Range area failed the inspection program, had to be repaired and retested, and which resulted in smoke opacity being reduced on the average of 61% among the repaired vehicles and;

WHEREAS the Ad Hoc Committee recommended that the Board of Health and other municipal governments seek legislation to authorize smoke inspections of diesel vehicles operating in the urban areas of Nevada exceeding 100,000 population;

WHEREAS the vehicles which are not registered in those local urban areas could be inspected for smoke through roadside sites coordinated with routine safety inspections by DMV motor carrier enforcement officers;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Las Vegas City Council endorses the efforts of the District Board of Health requiring the Nevada State Legislature to amend the Nevada Revised Statutes to provide that the State Environmental Commission and Department of Motor Vehicles implement a diesel powered motor vehicle smoke inspection program in the large urban areas of the state.

PASSED, ADOPTED, AND APPROVED this 20th day of June, 1990.

  
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RON LURIE, Mayor OK 6-25-90 RAW

ATTEST:

  
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KATHLEEN M. TIGHE, City Clerk