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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**STATEMENT OF SUPPORT FOR NEW “BUY CLEAN CALIFORNIA” BILL  
Labor, Environmental Justice, Industry groups support AB 262**

***REPORTERS/PRODUCERS:** The following statement is approved for use in any coverage of the Buy Clean California bill (AB 262) introduced in the California legislature on February 1, 2017:*

(SACRAMENTO – February 1, 2017) California industrial producers have joined forces with environmental justice groups, clean air advocates and labor unions to support AB 262, “Buy Clean California,” which adds a “Buy Clean” requirement to state procurement rules. The bill, introduced today in the California State Legislature by Asm. Rob Bonta (D-Oakland), will direct state agencies to consider the carbon emissions of products purchased with state funds, in a first-of-its-kind effort to address climate pollution associated with public infrastructure development.

Once passed into law, the bill will help reduce the climate pollution associated with California’s purchase of industrial products, like cement, steel and glass. Many industrial producers already comply with California’s strict emissions rules under the state’s aggressive climate protection goals. The bill’s supporters offered the following statements:

“We enthusiastically support this groundbreaking bill. United Steelworkers believes we do not have to choose between economic and environmental progress, but that we can — and must — implement solutions to ensure both. This bill aligns perfectly with that approach by recognizing the carbon advantages of energy-efficient production that will advance the state’s climate goals while maintaining good, family-supporting manufacturing jobs.” - **Robert LaVenture, Director, United Steelworkers District 12, representing thousands of manufacturing workers in California and 10 other western states.**

“A ‘Buy Clean’ policy makes sense for the environment, for the economy, and for the state. It will cut greenhouse gas emissions over the long-term, and make sure the state is spending in a way

that matches Californians' environmental values.” - **Kathryn Phillips, Director, Sierra Club California**

California is leading the nation in efforts to combat climate change while creating and sustaining good jobs. Buy Clean is a groundbreaking policy that levels the playing field for businesses that manufacture products with fewer emissions. It also promotes investments in cleaner production technologies and processes and preserves good, middle-class jobs. - **Jose Tengco, West Coast Director, BlueGreen Alliance**

“Saving the environment and staving off the worst impacts of climate change takes action on all fronts. The Buy Clean Campaign ensures that we are using our tax dollars in a way that protects the environment.” - **Dan Jacobson, State Director, Environment California**

“This bill helps level the playing field between instate manufacturers who produce products with a lower environmental footprint, often with recycled content, and those who rely on extracting new resources and other energy intensive practices.” - **Nick Lapis, Director of Advocacy, Californians Against Waste**

“The state should lead by example and account for climate-changing emissions when it buys construction materials.” - **Bill Magavern, Policy Director, Coalition for Clean Air**

"As business leaders, entrepreneurs, philanthropists, and other prominent citizens, the California members of Voices for Progress are staunchly supportive of the groundbreaking Buy Clean policy because it simultaneously advances the goals of preventing climate change, creating employment opportunities for California workers, and advantaging businesses that invest in the clean production processes essential to our future." - **Sandra Fluke, California State Director, Voices for Progress**

“With ‘Buy Clean,’ California will demonstrate global climate leadership not only by reducing embedded carbon in its infrastructure, but also by leveling the playing field for producers of climate-friendly products.” - **Cindy Clark, Chief Development Officer, Sustainable Silicon Valley**

“The American Lung Association in California supports putting California’s purchasing power to work reducing greenhouse gas emissions and cutting the health risks of communities linked to air pollution.” - **Bonnie Holmes-Gen | Senior Director, Air Quality and Climate Change, American Lung Association in California**

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