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Big Oil Targets Another Clean Air Champion

Sacramento, Calif.— An oil-industry backed independent expenditure campaign has funneled more than \$300,000 into an effort to oust environmental champion Senator Jim Beall from his Senate District 15 legislative seat.

Beall was a co-author of Senate Bill 350 last year. That bill was vigorously opposed by the oil industry until language that would reduce dependence on oil was removed.

Beall has also been a champion for improving transportation options and reducing air pollution.

The latest oil-industry effort follows other recent expenditures by the oil industry to target other legislative candidates who champion clean air and clean energy.

Statement from Kathryn Phillips, Director of Sierra Club California:

"Senator Beall has been a consistently strong voice for public health and the environment. It's distressing to see a polluting industry wage a heavily financed war on him and his efforts to continue to serve his constituents and California.

"But it isn't surprising. Absentee ballots have been mailed out and polluting industries are going to focus intently on pushing out or stopping in the primary the best champions for clean air and for protecting public health."

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Sierra Club California is the legislative and regulatory advocacy arm of the Sierra Club's 13 local chapters in California, representing nearly 380,000 members and supporters statewide.