

AMERICAN PUBLIC GAS ASSOCIATION

April 22, 2024

Assembly Member Eduardo Garcia, Chair Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials Committee 1020 N Street, Room 171 Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: AB 2513 (Pellerin) Gas stoves and ranges: warning label – OPPOSE

Dear Chair Garcia:

The American Public Gas Association (APGA) is writing to inform you of our opposition to AB 2513 (Pellerin), legislation that would require a warning label on gas cooking appliances. This legislation is unnecessary, as existing safety standards and building code requirements provide consumers with robust protection from cooking emissions.

APGA is the trade association representing more than 730 communities across the U.S. that own and operate their retail gas distribution entities, including a few cities in California.¹ These include not-for-profit gas distribution systems owned by municipalities and other local government entities, all accountable to the citizens they serve. They support their communities by delivering fuel to be used for clothes drying, and space and water heating, as well as for various commercial and industrial applications.

In addition, APGA's members provide the energy for gas cooking, which is an affordable and preferred technology used in 40 percent of U.S. homes. Cooking with gas offers many benefits, including quick startup, even temperature, and reliability during outages. Furthermore, neither the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) nor the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) present gas ranges as a significant contributor to adverse indoor air quality (IAQ) or health hazard in their technical or public information, literature, guidance, or requirements.

APGA supports its members in educating their customers that effective ventilation is key to enhancing IAQ, no matter the energy source used to cook.² As well, APGA members, through the APGA Research Foundation, partner with GTI Energy to further research and advance gas cooking technology. For instance, in the summary of research on residential cooking IAQ, GTI

¹ APGA has the following members in California: City of Susanville Public Works, Island Energy, City of Palo Alto, City of Victorville, and City of Vernon Light and Power Co.

² "Natural Gas Cooking Safety." <u>https://www.apga.org/aboutus/facts/naturalgas-cooking-safety</u>.

Energy provides, "results showed cooking emissions were more a function of the cooking vessel and food product cooked than energy source."³

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For these reasons, APGA is opposed to AB 2513. However, we remain committed to educating the community-owned gas utility customers and the public more broadly of the importance of ventilation, and as appropriate, engaging in the development of safety standards and related building codes.

Thank you for the opportunity to share our comments in opposition to AB 2513.

Respectfully submitted,

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Stuart Saulters Vice President of Government Relations American Public Gas Association

³ "Residential Cooking IAQ Special Report: Cooking Emissions for Natural Gas, Propane and Electric Range Tops." <u>https://www.gti.energy/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/Residential-Cooking-Indoor-Air-Quality-Cooking-Emissions-for-NaturalGas-Propane-Electric-Range-Tops-whitepaper.pdf</u>.