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TOYOTA STATEMENT ON H2GROW ACT

This statement may be attributed to Charles Ing, Corporate Legislative Affairs Manager, Toyota Motor North America

Toyota thanks Senator Wyden and Representative Cox for introducing the H2GROW Act, which will accelerate the development of fuel cell technology.

Toyota shares the vision of a hydrogen-powered future for the automobile and has been developing a 100% proprietary Fuel Cell Hybrid Vehicle -- or FCHV -- since 1992.

Toyota Fuel Cell Hybrid Vehicles are already in operation with real-world customers as part of a University of California shared-use program. The FCHV will be used in day-to-day driving so we can learn more about what our customers want and need in a fuel cell vehicle.

Toyota is also working with the University, the South Coast Air Quality Management Board, the California Air Resources Board and business to establish a network of six fueling stations within six months. We have already built two fueling stations including one at Toyota's national headquarters in Torrance, California. This project's goal is to create a "hydrogen highway" to link the northern and southern portions of the state.

These initiatives are designed to establish a fuel cell "community" partnering government, business and higher education to help develop products, infrastructure and consumer acceptance.

The H2GROW Act encourages just this type of program by providing a broad range of incentives to cover vehicle purchasing, infrastructure, fuels, and codes and standards.

Toyota applauds Senator Wyden and Representative Cox for their bipartisan, bicameral efforts in support of an idea that is a win-win for society. Movement to a hydrogen economy will help provide energy security for our nation and protection for our environment. This is an important step on the long road to bringing fuel cell vehicles to mass market.

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