

# AUTO\$ENSE

## AB 96 (RUSKIN) IS OFF TO THE GOVERNOR FOR SIGNATURES

AB96 is the legislature's answer to the Air Resources Board (ARB) mandate for Enhanced Vapor Recovery (EVR) if signed by the Governor. The EVR debacle arose because industry was unable to comply with ARB's request in a timely manner. This was mainly due to a lack of adequately attracting and certifying equipment suppliers, forcing station owners to have little choice in what equipment to purchase and allowing a select few to corner the market thus costing the industry greatly. The local Air Districts have issued approximately one million dollars in fines since April 1, 2009. AB96 once signed by the Governor will:

1. Transfer \$8 million into the Replacement Underground Storage Tank (Rust) fund for grants and loans.
2. Specifies the money to be used for grant funds from April 1, 2009 to June 30, 2009.
3. Extends the applications for grant funds from April 1, 2009 to June 30, 2009.
4. Extends the sunset date of the RUST program from 1/1/2011 to 1/1/2016.

The Legislator chose AB96 over both AB453 (Garrick) and SB507 (Cox) which are currently all but dead. That would have allowed an extension in time in order to comply until April 1, 2010 and limit the amount of fines by the Air Districts to a maximum of a \$1,000.

## WILL STATE FUND BE SOLD?

One must understand that the idea of either selling all or part of the state's Workers' Compensation Insurance Program known as State Fund is not new nor is the concept of privatizing it new.

The State Fund has provided stability for California employers in a very volatile workers' compensation market. Without the State Fund many employers' particularly small businesses and start-ups would simply not be able to obtain or afford workers' compensation.

Remember what happened in the years between 2000 and 2002 when 28 private carriers claimed insolvency and left the California market. It was State Fund who stepped up and provided a safety net for workers' compensation which prevented a market collapse.

CSSARA strongly supports the continuation of California's State Fund Workers' Compensation Insurance Program. CSSARA requests its members to call and write their legislators asking them not to allow the administration or the legislature itself to destroy this important entity that safeguards our workers' compensation insurance industry here in California.

## IN-STATION DIAGNOSTICS-ARE YOU READY? COMING SEPTEMBER 1, 2009



## CSSARA ANNUAL MEETING SEPTEMBER 15 & 16, 2009 RENO, NEVADA

CSSARA will once again team up with the Pacific Oil Conference (POC) for its Annual Meeting in September. This Conference will be an excellent opportunity for you to meet with industry peers, become informed about industry challenges, and see the latest equipment and services for the petroleum industry.

**Dates: September 14 – 17, 2009.**

**Location: Grand Sierra Resort and Casino Reno, Nevada**

**CSSARA booth hrs: Tues. 9/15 3 pm – 7 pm  
Wed. 9/16 10 am – 3 pm**

You will be able to meet and speak with a number of CSSARA's Associate Members/Endorsed Suppliers at our booth, so be sure to take advantage of this opportunity when you stop by.

Call the Grand Sierra Resort at 800-648-5080 to reserve your room