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reinstate provision for AC to Heat Pump

I am a private individual residing in California.

The climate crisis is urgent. A quick look at the news this week reveals extreme heat in Asia and historic floods in Brazil. I am concerned that the world I know is slipping away, and I do not like it.

I commend the draft code, especially the provisions that encourage building electrification and the installation of heat pumps for space and water heating. I strongly urge the commission to keep these provisions.

We must use every tool at our disposal. To strengthen the code further, please reinstate the mandatory provision to convert air conditioners to heat pumps at the time of their replacement.

This is a low cost way to increase the use of heat pumps. In particular, this provision results in a heat pump being installed in much the same way as a replacement air conditioner. Because of this, it reduces any reluctance that consumers or contractors may have if they are not already familiar with heat pumps.

Governor Newsom has a target of 6 million heat pumps by 2030. We are not on track for that target, nor are we on track to meeting our 2030 climate goals.

Please act with urgency and do all you can. Please reinstate the language that would make an upgrade to a heat pump mandatory at the time an air conditioner is replaced.