



March 29, 2011

The Honorable Bill Emmerson  
California State Senate, District 37  
State Capitol Room 4082  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: SUPPORT - SB 582 | Commuter Benefit Programs**

Dear Senator Emmerson,

Genentech supports SB 582 and your efforts to encourage commuter benefit programs, which help reduce congestion, improve air quality, and incentivize a smarter approach to providing employees a choice in getting to and from work.

At Genentech, we provide all three commute benefit options envisioned in the bill: pretax commute benefits, company paid commute subsidies, and company provided bus service between our South San Francisco campus and local communities, including BART and Caltrain. We do this for a couple of reasons.

First, the tremendous growth of our company over the past years has seen an increase from two employees in 1976 to over 10,000 working at our South San Francisco headquarters, which is in addition to the growth of the biotechnology industry over the same time span in the same area. Simply, we had to find a multiple solution approach to ensuring our business and employees were not unduly impacted by unpredictable commute times and the real constraints of infrastructure connecting our employees' homes to their work place.

Second, we believe in a shared responsibility for ensuring environmental sustainability. As a good corporate citizen, we work to take prudent actions to ensure that we are mitigating our impact on the environment by thinking critically about ways to run our business smarter and greener.

Acting on these principles, Genentech hopes to continue as a leader on commute benefit programs and beyond.

Considered the founder of the biotechnology industry, Genentech has been delivering on the promise of biotechnology for more than thirty-five years, using human genetic information to discover, develop, manufacture and commercialize biotherapeutics that address significant unmet medical needs.

Thank you for your leadership on this legislation. If Genentech can be of assistance with this effort, please do not hesitate to contact me at (916) 443-5703 or [hansen.steve@gene.com](mailto:hansen.steve@gene.com).

Sincerely,

Steve Hansen  
Senior Manager, California Region  
State Government Affairs