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**Statement by Rev. Daniel Klawitter, Religious Outreach Organizer for FRESC:
Good Jobs/Strong Communities, on the One Year Anniversary of the Los Angeles
Clean Truck Program.**

“On a recent trip to attend a conference in Washington D.C., I learned of the great economic and environmental benefits brought to communities in southern California during the first year of the landmark Clean Truck Program adopted by Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa.

“Living as I do in land-locked Colorado, I know that many of my groceries (especially vegetables and seafood) come from the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach. So, I was pleased to learn that the Clean Truck Program helped to put over 5,000 clean trucks into service with a goal of protecting workers and communities from the massive amounts of diesel pollution historically produced in Port cities and towns.

“However, I have now been made aware that this important program is in jeopardy because of legal action taken by the American Trucking Association. Apparently, they want workers and taxpayers to foot the bill for the pollution their companies create!

“Important programs that improve the lives of both workers and their communities should not be overturned simply to satisfy special interests. Therefore, in the name of the common good and in the interest of protecting the ‘beloved community’ that Dr. Martin Luther King gave voice to, I join with my sisters and brothers across this country in calling for Congress to step in to protect the Clean Truck Program.”

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