

Dear Congressman Ruiz,

I'm Elizabeth Esteban and I live in the Thermal area. I'm currently attending Desert Mirage High School and we've been seriously affected by the fires occurring all throughout this year. The fires are very concerning because it's hindering student and families' lives. I believe students shouldn't be exposed to these fires as how dangerous they are, but it's still mandatory for students to go even if this toxic air is affecting student's health. These fires have become too common for students and families. Waking up each morning and being exposed to the contaminated air is not good at all. Everytime there's a fire my eyes start irritating and my lungs and chest hurt a lot. We are not even safe in our classes because the smell even gets in. Plus, it's not only affecting students, it's affecting our field workers. Most people in our area work in the fields. I believe that they shouldn't be slowly increasing their chances on getting cancer when they're only working to help out their family. These fires have gone to far! If these fires affect our community any much longer, our community won't even have the sufficient money to pay for medical bills. Please Dr. Ruiz, help us combat these problems that's affecting everyone in our community. This shouldn't be the living conditions for students and kids. Every person in our community is being affected. We would all be very thankful if you help our community out. Our community would even help in any way to stop this. Thank you for taking the time to read all these issues happening within your community.

Sincerely,
Elizabeth Esteban 10/04/2019