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Assembly California Legislature

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SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE
ASSEMBLYWOMAN, TWELFTH DISTRICT



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CHAIR, SELECT COMMITTEE ON
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

June 24, 2011

The Honorable Jerry Brown
Governor of California
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Brown:

We have been made aware of pending regulations proposed by the Department of Fish and Game (DFG) that will have a negative impact on recreational fishing throughout the state. Advocates of recreational fishing have advised that the proposed regulations are prohibitively expensive and impossibly complex and they may very well shut down most of the recreational fishing in farm ponds and privately-owned lakes across the state.

Fee for fishing lakes offer affordable camping and fishing for California residents. They camp at the lakes with their families, catch fish and enjoy wholesome outdoor recreation. Moms and dads introduce their kids to fishing which, in many cases, results in a lifelong love and appreciation of the environment and fishing.

For over 30 years, the DFG has regulated these lakes without any problems and without requiring a fishing license for fishing. The lakes are privately owned and the stocked with trout and catfish are purchased with private money. No state funds are used whatsoever. The cost of a fishing license will put this recreation out of financial reach for many of our low-income constituents. The financial ripple effect will result in closures of the lakes, a loss of jobs and less revenue to the state of California where every dollar is needed to balance out budget.

We encourage your office to take a close look at the pending regulations and the impacts that they will have on fishing in the state.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "Fiona Ma", written over a horizontal line.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Dan J. Futo", written over a horizontal line.