



December 1, 2011

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Mr. Jim Kellogg, President  
California Fish and Game Commission  
PO Box 944209  
Sacramento, CA 94244-2090

Dear Mr. Kellogg and Members of the Fish and Game Commission:

On behalf of the California Hotel & Lodging Association (CH&LA) and the California Association of Bed and Breakfast Innkeepers (CABBI), we write this letter to express our opposition to the proposed fish stocking regulations to be considered at the December Commission hearing.

CH&LA and CABBI represent the largest and oldest hospitality association in the nation including small independently owned properties to large national chains. Our industry has been severely impacted by the recession and continues to slowly recover. In light of the economy, the closure of many state parks and the increased cost of regulation, we strongly oppose the expansion of fees and new fee structure that will be imposed on local governments and the negative impact and high costs associated with these proposed regulations.

We believe that the unintended consequences of the proposed regulations will have a very negative effect on our industry while doing little if anything to improve the environment. The proposed regulations will prevent the practice of fish stocking to control weeds, algae and disease carrying insects and go against many ecological best practices. If forced to abandon these best practices, private pond owners may return to less environmentally sound practices such as herbicides and pesticides. Further, many of our members use their ponds as an amenity for guests for fishing which will no longer be available further impacting their business in an already difficult economic environment.

In light of these concerns, and those of the 30+ organizations that have already expressed their concern over these regulations, we respectfully request that you reconsider these regulations prior to taking action. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Randi L. Knott, MPA  
Vice President, Government & Legal Relations



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