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California State Senate

SENATOR
LOU CORREA
THIRTY-FOURTH SENATE DISTRICT



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OVERSIGHT AND
ACCOUNTABILITY COMMISSION

May 31, 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 disastrous negative impact not only on our districts but throughout the state. 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 in our districts offer affordable camping and fishing for our constituents, many of whom are low income and minority. 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 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 our budget.


We request a meeting with you at your earliest convenience to discuss these issues before the regulations are adopted by the Fish and Game Commission.




Sincerely,


Tony Mendoza
Assembly Member, 56th District


Rogel Hernández
Assembly Member, 57th District


Ron Calderon
Senator, 30th District

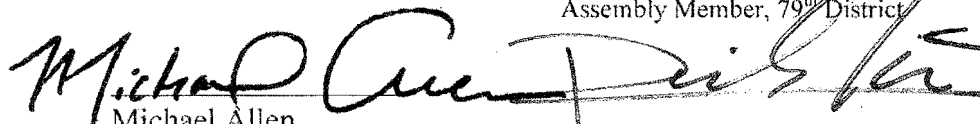
Norma J. Torres
Assembly Member, District


Lou Correa
Senator, 34th District

Luis Alejo
Assembly Member, 28th District

Ben Hueso
Assembly Member, 79th District

Kevin De León
Senator, 22nd District

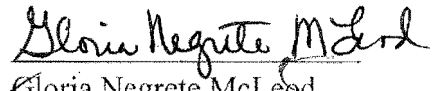

Michael Allen
Assembly Member, 7th District

Ricardo Lara
Assembly Member, 50th District

Ed Hernández
Senator, 24th District

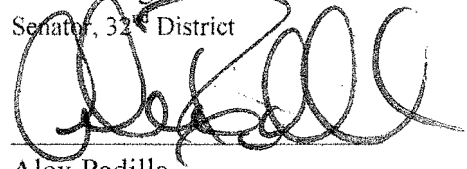
Charles Calderon
Assembly Member, 58th District

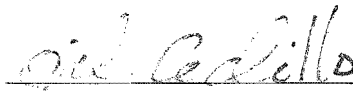
Henry T. Perea
Assembly Member, 31st District

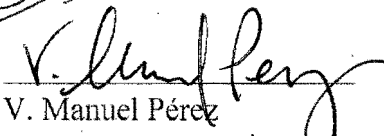

Gloria Negrete McLeod
Senator, 32nd District


Nora Campos
Assembly Member, 23rd District

Speaker John A. Pérez
Assembly Member, 46th District

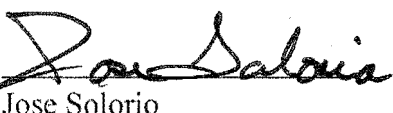

Alex Padilla
Senator, 20th District



Gilbert Cedillo
Assembly Member, 45th District


V. Manuel Pérez
Assembly Member, 80th District


Michael J. Rubio
Senator, 16th District

Felipe Fuentes
Assembly Member, 39th District


Jose Solorio
Assembly Member, 69th District


Juan C. Vargas
Senator, 40th District

cc: Nancy McFadden, Office of the Governor
The honorable John Laird, Secretary, Natural Resources Agency
John McCamman, Director, DFG