



March 3, 2017

The Honorable Marie Waldron
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

SUBJ: AB 478 (Sport fishing licenses: age requirement.)
POSITION: SUPPORT

Dear Assemblymember Waldron:

California Sportfishing League (CSL), California's leading advocate for California's 2.7 million anglers, is pleased to support AB 478.

CSL represents recreational anglers across California on issues important to protecting fishing access, fisheries management, hatchery fish production and conservation of natural resources important to fisheries.

AB 478 raises the age at which a fishing license is required from 16 to 18 years of age so that younger people do not have to purchase a costly adult fishing license. Removing costly barriers to youth participation is particularly important when studies have found that 71% of anglers experienced fishing for the first time as a child. Similarly, AB 1709 (Frazier), signed by the governor in 2014, provided a junior hunting license to increase participation in that outdoor sport.

Making fishing more affordable and accessible will only help grow recreational fishing's \$4.6 billion annual contribution to communities dependent on outdoor tourism for jobs and tax revenue.

For these reasons, CSL supports SB 478.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Marko Mlikotin", with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Marko Mlikotin
Executive Director

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