



April 18, 2018

**SUPPORT SB 518 (Berryhill) 12-Month Fishing License**

Senator Tom Berryhill  
State Capitol, Room 3067  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Senator Berryhill,

The California Association for Recreational Fishing (CARF) is a broad-based coalition of freshwater recreational anglers, lake and marina operators, fish farmers and businesses dependent on a strong and vibrant outdoor tourism industry.

California's annual license sales have dropped 55% since 1980 and its statewide fishing participation rate of 6% ranks dead last in the nation, despite the fact that the state has one of the longest coastlines, and thousands of rivers and lakes.

California needs to enact wholesale reform of its fishing license program in order to encourage more residents to participate in a great California pastime. This can be achieved by following the lead of other states who have successfully established a 12-month license as a means to increase fishing participation rates, and increase outdoor tourism and jobs.

For these reasons, CARF is pleased to support efforts to reform California's costly and antiquated fishing license program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Craig Elliott".

Craig Elliott  
President

