



CALIFORNIA
AQUACULTURE
ASSOCIATION

May 4, 2018

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

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Legislative Advocate
Rob Ross

Executive Director
Michael Lee

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SUB: Support SB 518 & AB 986 (Gallagher)

Dear Senator Tom Berryhill,

The California Aquaculture Association (CAA) promotes commercial production of plants and animals in aquatic systems to satisfy the needs of consumers for wholesome products that are produced by sustainable means. Our members are pleased to join California anglers in support of legislation that aims to make fishing more accessible and affordable.

As well as growing farm-fresh fish found on many dinner tables, restaurants, and markets throughout the United States, California aquaculturists also complement the State's fishery programs by stocking California lakes, river and streams with live fish. Our members grow 100% of all warm-water fish in California and as much as 35% of cold-water fish as well.

The high cost of fishing has become a significant barrier to access, as an annual fishing license cost anywhere from \$48.34 to \$120.00 a year if additional permits are required. Our organization supports establishing an annual fishing license that is valid for a full 12-months from the date of purchase.

Thank you for considering the view of California fish farmers.

Sincerely,

Michael Lee, Executive Director
California Aquaculture Association

CC: Rob Ross, Legislative Advocate, California Aquaculture Association