

April 23, 2018

Senator Tom Berryhill
State Capitol, Room 3067
Sacramento, CA 95814
RE: SB 518 (Berryhill) SUPPORT

Dear Senator Berryhill:

On behalf of the National Marine Manufacturers Association (NMMA), I am pleased to join the many associations and individuals who support of SB 518, each of whom recognize the economic and societal benefits that will be created by a 12-month fishing license.

NMMA is the largest recreational boating association in the country, representing 124 California manufacturers of recreational boats, engines, trailers and accessory equipment, as well as 1,300 other companies throughout the United States.

We believe it is reasonable that an angler paying an annual fee should be able to have the benefit of fishing for 12 months. Kansas and Nevada recently adopted this model, and it is in place in 14 states. These states include those with high levels of fishing participation, including Florida, Texas, Minnesota, Virginia and South Carolina. Mexico, which draws anglers from all over the world to San Diego to fish its waters, also has a 12-month license.

We urge passage of SB 518 in order to increase the value anglers get for their fees, just as the California Parks and Recreation Department abandoned its calendar-based park pass many years ago for one that is valid for a full 12-months from the date of purchase. While SB 518 does not address the high cost of fishing, it will provide California anglers greater value by ensuring that annual license are valid for a full 12-months from the date of purchase.

California anglers deserve a license that expires 12 months after its purchase date. They seek value and savings when choosing their outdoor activities. Not only are Californian fishing licenses the most expensive in the United States, NMMA supports SB 518 because we believe it would help slow or reverse the steady decline in fishing participation rates and license sales the state has experienced for decades.

For these reasons, I ask that you support SB 518. Please contact me at ddickerson@nmma.org with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,



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