



June 4, 2018

SUPPORT: Senate Bill 518 (Berryhill): 12- Month Fishing License

The Honorable Tom Berryhill
 State Capitol, Room 3067
 Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Senator Berryhill:

On behalf of the 1,063,000 travel/tourism and hospitality jobs in the state of California, the following organizations are pleased to offer their support for legislation that aims to increase fishing participation rates critical to protecting our state's economy, jobs, and state and local tax revenue.

California's travel and tourism industry is responsible for \$130 billion in direct travel spending from visitors and contributes \$10 billion in state and local taxes each year. Many of the jobs in our industry are directly impacted by over 2.6 million California anglers, which contribute over \$4.6 billion in economic activity each year.

However, there has been an unprecedented decline in recreational fishing in California. Annual license sales have declined 55% since 1980 and the state's fishing participation rate ranking (per capita) has dropped to dead last in the nation. If the 35-year historic trend remains constant, California will sell less than one million annual fishing licenses in the next 10 years, resulting in less funding for important wildlife and conservation programs that draw anglers to California from all over the world.

This is why our organizations are pleased to support SB 518 that would establish a fishing license that is valid for a full 12-months from the date of purchase. We believe that fishing is a cherished California pastime that should be preserved and grown. It is for this reason and the reasons stated above that our organizations are proud to support California recreational anglers.

Sincerely,

California Association Boutique & Breakfast Inns, California Association of RV Parks & Campgrounds, California Chamber of Commerce, California Hotel & Lodging Association, California Lodging Industry Association, California Parks Company, California Parks and Hospitality Association, California Travel Association, CityPASS, Dogtrekker.com, Mammoth Lakes Tourism, Orange County Business Council, Orange County Visitors Association, San Diego Regional Chamber, San Diego Tourism Authority, Santa Monica Travel & Tourism, Team San Jose, Visit Huntington Beach, California Aquaculture Association, Oxnard Chamber of Commerce, Pure Fishing, Abu Garcia, Berkley Fishing, Penn Fishing, National Federation of Independent Business, National Marine Manufacturers Association, Marine Recreation Association, Sacramento Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce, CalAsian Chamber of Commerce, and San Jose Silicon Valley Chamber of Commerce.

CC: Members, Assembly Committee on Water, Parks and Wildlife
Ryan Ojakian, Committee Consultant
Calvin Rusch, Minority Consultant