



CALIFORNIA
AQUACULTURE
ASSOCIATION

March 29, 2017

The Honorable Tom Berryhill
The Honorable Marie Waldron
The Honorable James Gallagher
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

CAA Officers

President
Tony Schuur
*Aquaculture Management
Services*

Vice President
Vacant

Treasurer
Ali Bolourchi
Plaza Aqua Farm

Secretary
Dennis Faria
Imperial Catfish

CAA Directors and Staff

Don Crain
Crain Fisheries

Greg Dale
Pacific Seafood

Mark Drawbridge
Hubbs-SeaWorld Research
Institute

Cameron Eglinton
Blue Beyond Fisheries

Dennis Faria
Imperial Catfish

Iva Gaglione
Star Milling Company

Gregg Leonard
Freshwater Fish Company

Michael Graham
Sustainable Seafood
Technologies

Anthonie Schuur
Aquaculture Management
Services

Tony Vaught
Professional Aquaculture
Services

Jackie Zimmerman
Skretting

Legislative Advocate
Rob Ross

Executive Director
Michael Lee

P.O. Box 4638
Chico, CA 95927
916-915-1151
www.caaquaculture.org

SUB: Support SB 187 & SB 234 (Berryhill), AB 478 (Waldron), AB 986 (Gallagher)

Dear Honorable Members of the California State Legislature,

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 most 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 \$47.01 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, increasing the eligibility to fish for free for all kids under the age of 18, and establishing discounts for California veterans.

Additionally, CAA is concerned with onerous restrictions and bans on recreational fishing and, as a result, we support SB 234.

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