



March 14, 2017

Senator Kevin De León
State Capitol, Room 205
Sacramento, CA 95814
senator.deleon@senate.ca.gov

RE: Northwestern California Environmental Organizations Support SB 49

Dear Senator De León,

On behalf of the Environmental Protection Information Center (EPIC), Northcoast Environmental Center, Humboldt Baykeeper, Friends of Del Norte, and Safe Alternatives for our Forest Environment, we write to urge you to support SB 49, the California Environmental, Public Health, and Workers Defense Act of 2017.

Our organizations rely upon the federal Endangered Species Act and the Clean Water Act to do our work. We are alarmed by the proposed rollbacks to these fundamental environmental laws by the Trump Administration. These proposed revisions would undermine the decades of progress made in promoting a verdant and healthy California, sending the state back to a time when rivers caught fire and endangered species were hunted to extinction.

The proposed legislation would preserve federal baseline environmental laws by incorporating protections into state law. This strategy to defend protections has been employed previously, most notably in 2003 when the Legislature passed SB 288 in response to similar rollbacks of federal clean air standards by the Bush Administration. We are encouraged that SB 49 builds upon this strong precedent.

We urge you to support SB 49 and sincerely appreciate your efforts to keep California green and gold.

If you have any questions or require anything additional from us, please do not hesitate to call.

Sincerely,

Thomas Wheeler
Executive Director, Environmental Protection
Information Center

Jen Kalt,
Director, Humboldt Baykeeper

Larry Glass
Executive Director, Northcoast Environmental
Center

Joe Gillespie
President, Friends of Del Norte

Executive Director, Safe Alternatives for our
Forest Environment