



July 10, 2020

VIA Online Portal to Author and Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Water

The Honorable Al Muratsuchi
California State Assembly
State Capitol Building, Room 2179
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: AB 345 (Muratsuchi) – Oil and gas regulations: environmental justice, setbacks - SUPPORT

Dear Assemblymember Muratsuchi:

The League of Women Voters of California writes to support AB 345, which would establish an environmental justice program within the Natural Resources Agency (NRA) and require the Department of Conservation (DOC) to adopt regulations to protect public health and safety near oil and gas extraction facilities.

The League of Women Voters of California has a long history of encouraging public participation in government and support for protecting the environment and promoting the health and safety of children.

Existing law establishes the Geologic Energy Management Division (CalGEM) in the Department of Conservation with many responsibilities but does not specifically include an environmental justice program or consideration of setbacks. AB 345 is needed to allow the residents who are most affected by the regulations regarding oil and gas extraction to participate in the decision-making process and to require the consideration of setbacks from locations where there is a sensitive population, including children.

The League of California Voters of California urges passage of AB 345 (Muratsuchi), to strengthen public participation among populations most affected by environmental regulations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Carol Moon Goldberg".

Carol Moon Goldberg
President