

September 16, 2019

VIA Email to Author and the Office of the Governor

The Honorable Gavin Newsom Governor of California State Capitol Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: SB 1 (Atkins) - CA Environmental, Public Health, and Workers Defense Act of 2019 – REQUEST FOR SIGNATURE

Dear Governor Newsom:

The League of Women Voters of California writes to request your signature on SB 1, a bill to require specified state agencies to act to ensure continued protections for the environment, natural resources, public health, and workers health and safety in California even if federal laws regarding these protections are undermined, amended, or repealed. California can and should continue to lead the nation in protection of natural and human resources.

For almost 100 years, the League of Women Voters of the United States has been active in advocating for conservation of natural resources. LWVUS helped to pass the landmark Clean Water Act in the early 1970s and to protect, expand, and strengthen it through the 1990s. The League has worked at national, state, and local levels for the protections of the Safe Drinking Water Act. We have consistently fought efforts to gut the Clean Air Act and, since the turn of the millennium, have lobbied for legislation to control global climate change, including supporting President Obama's Climate Action Plan.

The League is proud of this state's leadership in environmental and endangered species protections and in protections for workers. We have long held positions supporting standards for air quality, hazardous materials, and water quality that equal or exceed national standards.

The greatest uncertainties Californians face today arise not from regulatory activities but from unsustainable resource allocations coupled with changes in climate and weather patterns. This is not the time to dial back on secure baseline levels of protection for California's substantial natural and human resources. Every level of government must share responsibility for resource management, and federal policies should enhance, not undercut, capabilities of other levels. SB 1 embodies that principle and we respectfully urge you to sign it into law.

Sincerely,

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Carol Moon Goldberg President