



RURAL COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES
OF CALIFORNIA

January 8, 2019

The Honorable Bill Dodd
Member, California State Senate
State Capitol, Room 4032
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Senate Bill 62 – SUPPORT

Dear Senator Dodd:

On behalf of the Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC), I am writing to express our support for your Senate Bill 62, which would remove the sunset and make permanent provisions exempting the accidental take of a candidate, threatened, or protected species resulting from acts that occur on a farm or a ranch in the course of otherwise lawful routine and ongoing agricultural activities. RCRC is an association of thirty-six rural California counties, and the RCRC Board of Directors is comprised of elected supervisors from those member counties.

California's agricultural producers are the backbone of the State's economic infrastructure. During most routine agricultural activities, it is nearly impossible to fully mitigate for the thousands of candidate, threatened, and protected species listed under the California Endangered Species Act, even with the most diligent prevention measures and reasonably expected expenditures for the agriculture industry. In light of this, a permanent exemption for the accidental take of these species resulting from routine agricultural activities is completely reasonable, particularly when the State has already allowed a temporary exemption.

For the above reasons, RCRC supports your SB 62. If you should have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at sheaton@rcrcnet.org or (916) 447-4806.

Sincerely,

STACI HEATON
Regulatory Affairs Advocate

1215 K Street, Suite 1650, Sacramento, CA 95814 | www.rcrcnet.org | 916.447.4806 | Fax: 916.448.3154