



TO: Honorable Dave Min, Chair
Senate Natural Resources & Water Committee
Members, Senate Natural Resources & Water Committee

FROM: John Norwood
Norwood Associates, LLC

RE: SB 867 (Allen)—SUPPORT

DATE: March 20, 2023

Dear Members of the Senate Natural Resources & Water Committee,

On behalf of the **Independent Insurance Agents and Brokers of California (IIABCal)** and the **California Pool and Spa Association (CPSA)**, we respectfully request your “AYE” vote on SB 867 when it is heard before the Senate Natural Resources & Water Committee on March 28th, 2023.

IIABCal is a statewide trade association representing independent insurance agents and brokers in California who offer both personal and commercial insurance products and services to the insurance-buying public.

CPSA is the statewide umbrella trade association designed to promote the industry and to educate the public, local and state regulatory agencies, and the California Legislature on critical issues such as water and energy conservation, water safety and child drowning prevention, consumer protection, and unlicensed contractor abatement. They represent a wide range of individuals and companies involved in the swimming pool and spa industry in California. This includes pool builders, service and repair companies, manufacturers, distributors, retailers, designers, engineers, and other professionals in the industry.

SB 867 would enact the Drought and Water Resilience, Wildfire and Forest Resilience, Coastal Resilience, Extreme Heat Mitigation, Biodiversity and Nature-Based Climate Solutions, Climate Smart Agriculture, and Park Creation and Outdoor Access Bond Act of 2023, which, if approved by the voters, would authorize the issuance of bonds in an unspecified amount pursuant to the State General Obligation Bond Law to finance projects for drought and water resilience, wildfire and forest resilience, coastal resilience, extreme heat mitigation, biodiversity and nature-based climate solutions, climate-smart agriculture, and park creation and outdoor access programs.

Improving wildfire and forest resiliency is essential to lower the risk of insured wildfire losses in California. The Department of Insurance has predicted that there will be a 77% increase in the number of homes in California that are at risk of extreme wildfires. This bond proposal will increase the funds budgeted by the state to prevent wildfires and thus improve the availability and affordability of property insurance.

Drought resilience and water conservation are critical to the future of California and the future of the state's \$5 billion dollar swimming pool and spa industry. If the bond proposed by this legislation should pass, California would have additional resources to budget toward water conservation and developing new sources of water, water recapture and storage.

For the above reasons, we respectfully request your "AYE" vote on SB 867. Please do not hesitate to contact us should you have any questions or would like additional information.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John A. Norwood". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

John A. Norwood, Partner

Norwood Associates, LLC

cc: Ashley Ames, Consultant, Senate Natural Resources & Water Committee

Todd Moffit, Consultant, Senate Republican Caucus