



NOSSAMAN LLP | Memorandum

TO: The Honorable Dave Min, Chair - Senate Natural Resources Committee
The Honorable Ben Allen, Chair – Environmental Quality Committee

FROM: Nossaman LLP on behalf of the Monterey County Board of Supervisors

DATE: July 1, 2024

RE: SB 867 (Allen): Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024. – SUPPORT

The County of Monterey is pleased to support your measure Senate Bill (SB) 867. This bill enacts the Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024, which authorizes a \$10 billion bond to be placed on the November 5, 2024 ballot.

The impacts of climate change that California is already experiencing warrant significant investment in climate resilience and adaptation. The current State Budget deficit and the related cuts to natural resource and climate spending are some of the many reasons why we need SB 867. Funding cuts clearly demonstrate that California needs a climate bond and accompanying disciplined investment plan to address growing challenges in managing natural resources for the benefit of all Californians.

SB 867 proposes a general obligation bond to inject much needed revenue to address these impacts. The measure proposes to fund projects that increase safe and cleaning drinking water, reduce fire risk and restore already damaged areas, restore and protect impacted wetlands, watersheds, waterways, coastal resources, and fish and wildlife populations, reduce impacts in local communities and on vulnerable populations, and improve the resiliency of the state's water supplies and agricultural lands. SB 867 will provide the necessary investment to help our state become more resilient to climate change.

It is for these reasons that the County of Monterey supports SB 867 (Allen). Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact the County of Monterey's Public Policy Advisor, Ashley Walker of Nossaman LLP at 916- 442-8888.

Sincerely,

Ashley Walker
Nossaman LLP

CC: Author, Senator Ben Allen
Members, Senate Natural Resources Committee
Members, Senate Environmental Quality Committee
The Honorable Anna Caballero, 14th Senate District
The Honorable John Laird, 17th Senate District
The Honorable Robert Rivas, 29th Assembly District
The Honorable Dawn Addis, 30th Assembly District
California State Association of Counties (CSAC)
Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC)