



September 10, 2020

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

REQUEST FOR SIGNATURE: Support for SB 1320 (Stern) California Climate Change Assessment

Dear Governor Newsom,

On behalf of the undersigned organizations, representing a broad coalition dedicated to fighting the threat of climate change, particularly to frontline communities, we strongly urge you to sign SB 1320 (Stern) into law. This important legislation will ensure that the State has the tools, resources, and data-based information necessary to prepare for the impacts and risks of climate change and that Californians are informed of these threats and risks in an ongoing, transparent fashion.

The devastating impacts of climate change to the people, communities, natural resources and economy of California are both ongoing and worsening. The wildfires, extreme heatwaves,

drought, and subsequent economic, health and habitat impacts confronting the State and its local governments, tribes and frontline communities make clear the need for granular, detailed and actionable climate change assessments of the actual and potential risks and impacts. SB 1320 would codify California's pathbreaking work to understand, document and plan its responses to the climate crisis.

Specifically, SB 1320 addresses the gaps in data and information required to have a comprehensive climate change assessment that enables effective responses to the full range of threats and varied regional, economic and community specific impacts, particularly for vulnerable, frontline communities. The resulting mandated statewide climate change assessment would enable downscaled, specific projections for the impacts to tribes and vulnerable communities providing granular data-based information to address climate inequities and requires the Office of Planning and Research to engage with these groups and communities to determine the scope of the assessment. Finally, the legislation wisely provides a mechanism for OPR to produce these critical assessments as a foundational element of the state's ongoing response to this existential threat, without being subject to the political whims of a future administration.

For these reasons, the undersigned organizations support SB 1320 and respectfully request your signature for this important measure.

Sincerely,

Melissa Romero
Legislative Affairs Manager
**California League of Conservation
Voters**

Susan Stephenson
Executive Director
California Interfaith Power & Light

Jeanne Merrill
Policy Director
**California Climate & Agriculture Network
(CalCAN)**

Ellie Cohen
Chief Executive Officer
The Climate Center

Chris Morrill
Executive Director
California Wilderness Coalition

Pamela Flick
California Program Director
Defenders of Wildlife

Michael Schmitz
Principal
Carbon Accountable

Katelyn Roedner Sutter
Manager, U.S. Climate
Environmental Defense Fund

Nick Lapis
Director of Advocacy
Californians Against Waste

Michael Wellborn
President
Friends of Harbors, Beaches and Parks

Betsy Reifsnider
Sacramento Policy Associate
Mono Lake Committee

Matthew Baker
Policy Director
Planning & Conservation League

Evan Minton
California State Policy & Programmatic
Manager
Voices for Progress

Daniel Chandler
Legislative Committee Chair
350 Humboldt

Nicole Kemeny
President
350 Silicon Valley