



May 9, 2025

Assembly Appropriations Committee
1021 O Street, Suite 8220
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Assembly Bill 1448 (Hart) -- SUPPORT

To the Honorable Members of the Assembly Appropriations Committee ~ Chair Wicks, Vice Chair Sanchez, and Assemblymembers Arambula, Calderon, Caloza, Dixon, Elhawary, Fong, González, Hart, Pacheco, Pellerin, Solache, Ta and Tangipa:

The Center for Biological Diversity and The Environmental Defense Center are the proud cosponsors of [Assembly Bill 1448](#) (Hart). We join the undersigned organizations writing in strong support of AB1448, which is crucial to protect California's coastlines, wildlife, economy and communities from the threats posed by offshore oil and gas activities.

AB1448 will safeguard our coast against federal attempts to unlawfully open federal waters to new oil leasing off California. The Trump Administration has pledged to drill everywhere and will undoubtedly seek to expand Pacific offshore drilling. Current gaps in state law leave untoward paths for federal oil expansion through existing infrastructure in state waters. AB1448 takes a firm stand against efforts to expand drilling off our coast, to protect against associated risks to California interests.

Oil spills have historically caused significant damage to wildlife and marine habitats, leading to long-term environmental and economic harm. Trump's last offshore drilling plan predicted up to 148 oil spills off California, spewing as much as 2 million gallons of oil on our coast. This bill helps guard against such disasters by ensuring that existing oil platforms and pipelines in state waters cannot be repurposed to expand federal drilling.

Moreover, AB1448 addresses the need to prevent aging infrastructure from expanded or prolonged use when it should be retired. Offshore oil infrastructure has outlived its lifespan and presents significant risks. This bill requires strict environmental considerations for the reactivation of oil projects that have been shut down. Recent oil spills off our coast are stark reminders of the need to decommission — not restart — antiquated infrastructure. The 2015 Plains Pipeline oil spill and the 2021 San Pedro Pipeline spill killed hundreds of birds, marine mammals, and fish and caused more than \$200 million in clean-up and damage costs.

Over 150 million visitors a year enjoy California’s coastlines. Nearly 600,000 jobs and over \$42 billion in GDP rely on clean beaches and a healthy ocean¹. According to a 2024 NOAA report, coastal tourism and recreation produced 47% of GDP and 67% of the employment of California’s marine economy². That is compared with offshore mineral resources, which produced only 5% of GDP and 1% of the employment. These economic risks and benefits must be weighed appropriately. The coastal tourism and recreation sector, their employees, and their clients must be protected from the threat of another oil spill from California’s aging oil and gas infrastructure.

Protecting our climate, communities, and economy is paramount. AB1448 supports this goal by limiting greenhouse gas pollution from expanded federal oil and gas production. It also protects vulnerable California communities that neighbor polluting oil processing plants and refineries.

We urge California to show climate leadership in the face of federal threats to ‘drill, baby, drill’ and we ask for your support to vote YES on AB1448.

Thank you for your consideration. We look forward to working with you to ensure the successful passage of AB1448, to safeguard our coast.

Sincerely,

Brady Bradshaw
Senior Oceans Campaigner
Center for Biological Diversity

Alex Katz
Executive Director
Environmental Defense Center

Amy Wolfrum
Director, CA Policy & Government
Affairs
Monterey Bay Aquarium

Grant Bixby
Founding Member
Business Alliance for Protecting the
Pacific Coast

Jennifer Savage
California Policy Associate Director
Surfrider Foundation

Ashley Draeger
Pacific Policy & Comms. Director
Oceana

Victoria Rome
CA Government Affairs Director
NRDC

Mati Waiya
Tribal Chair
Coastal Band of the Chumash Nation

¹ *California’s Clean Coast Economy*. Oceana, usa.oceana.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/4/4046/california.pdf. Accessed May 1, 2025.

² *2024 Marine Economy Report*. NOAA Office of Coastal Management, 2024, coast.noaa.gov/digitalcoast/. Accessed 1 Sept. 2023.

J.J. Huggins
Media & PR Manager
Patagonia

Gabriela Facio
Policy Strategist
Sierra Club California

Tomas Valadez
California Policy Associate
Azul

Haley Ehlers
Executive Director
Climate First: Replacing Oil and Gas

Ted Morton
Executive Director
Santa Barbara Channelkeeper

Melissa Romero
Policy Advocacy Director
California Environmental Voters

Gianna Patchen
Chapter Coordinator
Santa Lucia Chapter of the Sierra Club
Representing San Luis Obispo County

Pamela Flick
California Program Director
Defenders of Wildlife

Michael Stocker
Director
Ocean Conservation Research

Marcie Kever
Oceans & Vessels Program Director
Friends of the Earth

Jesus Alonso
Community Organizer and EJ Advocate
Clean Water Action

Susan Jordan
Founder & Executive Director
California Coastal Protection Network

Nicole Ghio
California Director
Food & Water Watch

Carla Mena
Director of Policy & Legislative Affairs
Los Padres ForestWatch

RL Miller
President
Climate Hawks Vote

Michael Lyons
President
Get Oil Out!

Emily Engel
Group Chair
Sierra Club Santa Barbara Group

Tina Calderon
Director, Ocean Protectors Program
Sacred Places Institute for Indigenous
Peoples

Ilonka Zlatar
Climate Justice Organizer
Oil and Gas Action Network

Ramona du Houx
Communications Director
Elected Officials to Protect America
Code Blue

Ashley Eagle-Gibbs
Executive Director
Environmental Action Committee
of West Marin

Ken Hough
Co-Executive Director
Santa Barbara County Action Network

Jesus Alonso
Community Organizer and EJ Advocate
Clean Water Action

Irene Cooke
Organizer
Society of Fearless Grandmothers of SB

Tevin Schmitt
Watershed Scientist
Wishtoyo Chumash Foundation

Juan Lares
Project Director
Central Coast Climate Justice Network

Sharon Broberg
Steering Committee Member
350 Santa Barbara

Vivienne Chenkai
Advocacy Co-Chair
UCSB Environmental Affairs Board

Valerie Ventre-Hutton
Legislative Analyst
350 Bay Area Action

Andrea Leon-Grossman
Deputy Program Director - West
Vote Solar

Kenneth Palley
Executive Committee Member
Surfrider Foundation
Santa Barbara Chapter

Mati Waiya
Executive Director
Ventura Coastkeeper

Jim Lindburg
Legislative Consultant
Friends Committee on
Legislation of California

Margaret Reeves
Senior Scientist
Pesticide Action and Agroecology
Network

Amanda Martin
Administrator
Climate Action California

Mia DiConstanzo
President
Environmental Law Club at UCSB

Rachel Altman
Co-Chair
CLUE -SB Environmental Justice Group

Leslie Tamminen
Director
7th Generation Advisors

Ben Eichenberg
Staff Attorney
San Francisco Baykeeper

Robert M. Gould
President
San Francisco Bay
Physicians for Social Responsibility

Cheryl Auger
President
Ban SUP (Single Use Plastics)

Mary Rose
Board Member
Citizens Planning Association

Cherry Robinson
Chapter Chair
Climate Reality Project, San Diego

Shoshana Wechsler
Co-Coordinator
Sunflower Alliance

Woody Hastings
Phase Out Polluting Fuels
Program Coordinator
The Climate Center

Maricruz Ramirez
Community Organizer
Center on Race, Poverty, and the
Environment

Jennifer Tanner
Leader
Indivisible CA Green Team

Katharine Harris
Legislative Committee Leader
SanDiego350

Jack Eidt
Co-Founder
SoCal 350 Climate Action

Janet Garcia
Co-Chair
Quabajai Coastal Chumash
Keeper of the Western Gate