

May 23, 2012

Governor Jerry Brown State Capitol, First Floor Sacramento, CA 95814



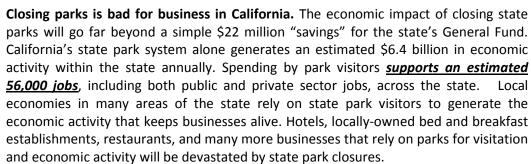


Dear Governor Brown,



As concerned California business leaders, we are writing to express our opposition to the closure of up to 70 state parks as proposed in your FY12-13 budget. Our chambers of commerce and business associations collectively represent more than ten thousand businesses throughout the state, many of which depend on tourism that is driven by California's state parks. If state parks are shut down, the impacts will be felt by businesses up and down the state.

The current budget proposal continues down the path towards park closures by eliminating \$22 million for the Department of Parks and Recreation from the General Fund. This marks the first time in the history of California's state park system—spanning both World Wars and the Great Depression—that parks will be closed for budgetary reasons.



In these tough economic times, closing state parks will only cause further strain on small businesses and local economies. We urge you to seek creative solutions that provide that provide adequate revenue to keep our state parks open, safe and accessible to all Californians.





Sincerely.

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Lynn Mohrfeld
President and CEO
California Hotel and Lodging Association
California Association of Bed and Breakfast Inns

Bob Roberts President and CEO California Ski Industry Association



Joe D'Alessandro
President and CEO
San Francisco Travel Association



Debra De Graw
Chief Executive Officer
Mendocino Coast Chamber & Visitor Center
Mendocino County Film Office



Scott White
President and CEO
Palm Springs Desert Resort Communities CVA

Steve Van Dorn President and CEO

Santa Clara Chamber of Commerce and Convention-Visitors Bureau



Leigh Nixon, ACE President and CEO

Simi Valley Chamber of Commerce

Wes^{*}Rhea Executive Director Stockton Convention & Visitors Bureau



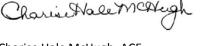
Maggie Ivy
Executive Vice President and CEO
Santa Cruz County Conference & Visitors Council





Alice Sullivan
President and CEO
Temecula Valley Chamber of Commerce

Laurel Brent Bunt



Charise Hale McHugh, ACE
President and CEO
Half Moon Bay Coastside Chamber of Commerce

and Chaphi



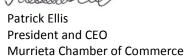
Laurel Brent-Bumb, ACE
Chief Executive Officer
El Dorado County Chamber
El Dorado County Joint Chambers Commission

Carol Chaplin
Executive Director
Lake Tahoe Visitors Authority





Joyce Donaldson President and CEO Indio Chamber of Commerce









Chamber of Commerce

Dee Way **Executive Director** Garberville Redway Area Chamber of Commerce

Scott Schneider President and CEO Visit Mendocino County, Inc.







