



February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019

The Honorable Cottie Petrie-Norris

California State Assembly

State Capitol, Room 3149

Sacramento, CA 94814

**Re: AB 65 (Support)**

Dear Assemblymember Petrie-Norris,

The Trust For Public Land (TPL) is pleased to support your AB 65, a bill that would authorize \$40 million from Proposition 68 to assist coastal communities with adaptation to the impacts from climate change by investing in green infrastructure projects that not only will protect us from these impacts, but offer recreational benefits and better access to the coast.

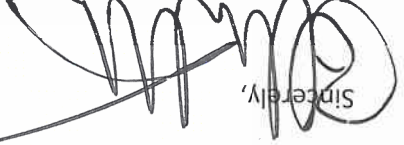
At this point there is no doubt that human beings are influencing and changing our climate. In California alone, we have seen the impacts of climate change ranging from drought, wildfires, intense heat and severe weather, but of course also sea-level rise. This is not only impacting our safety and quality of life, but also our state's economy. For the millions of people that live near the 800-miles of coastal California, it's particularly urgent as much of our \$96 billion outdoor economy is tied to our coastline.

AB 65 invest in multi-benefit green infrastructure projects like restoring tidal marshes and wetlands, installing permeable pavement, urban tree canopy and rain gardens – among other things. These natural restoration projects not only protect our coast, but restore ecosystems while improving access opportunities and coastal economies.

TPL has worked along the coast of California for 40-years with projects ranging from local parks, to large open spaces and natural landscapes. We know the benefit of accessing these world class vistas for not only recreation, but to experience the unique habitats and world-class views.

TPL would like to thank you for your leadership on this issue, and in our view, more needs to be done to invest and restore natural and working lands if we are to achieve our overall goal of carbon neutrality – AB 65 is an important part of this effort and therefore we strongly support.

Rico Mastrodonato

Sincerely,  


Government Affairs Director