

# OUTDOOR ALLIANCE

May 14, 2019

Assemblymember Laura Friedman  
300 East Magnolia Boulevard  
Suite 504  
Burbank, CA 91502

## Re: Outdoor recreation community support for AB 1111

Dear Assemblymember Friedman,

On behalf of the human powered outdoor recreation community in California, we write to express our support for AB 1111 to establish an office of outdoor recreation. A state office will be an important step toward ensuring sustainable recreation opportunities for all Californians and will help to ensure that the myriad benefits of outdoor recreation—from economic contributions to health and quality of life—are maximized and made real for all of the state's residents.

Outdoor Alliance is a coalition of ten member-based organizations representing the human powered outdoor recreation community. The coalition includes Access Fund, American Canoe Association, American Whitewater, International Mountain Bicycling Association, Winter Wildlands Alliance, The Mountaineers, the American Alpine Club, the Mazamas, Colorado Mountain Club, and Surfrider Foundation and represents the interests of the millions of Americans who climb, paddle, mountain bike, backcountry ski and snowshoe, and enjoy coastal recreation on our nation's public lands, waters, and snowscapes.

In California, Outdoor Alliance serves as a platform for outdoor recreationists to coordinate their efforts to protect public lands, waters, and snowscapes, and to ensure these places can be experienced in a meaningful and sustainable manner.

Our community has had substantial positive experience working with state offices of outdoor recreation across the West, and we believe these offices have uniformly helped to raise the profile of outdoor recreation and ensure better coordination and results from land management agencies often tasked with balancing competing priorities. In addition to the direct benefits provided to participants in recreational activities, we believe strongly that outdoor recreation is an essential way for individuals and communities to come to know their public lands and build a conservation ethic, helping in turn to support protection and sound stewardship of public lands and waters.

In particular, our community appreciates provisions in the bill aimed to improve:



# OUTDOOR ALLIANCE

- The accessibility of the outdoors for diverse constituencies;
- The quality of data concerning outdoor recreation;
- Communication between the land managers charged with stewarding public lands and waters in the state;
- Proactive efforts to address the effects of climate change.

We believe that the passage of AB 1111 will help protect and enhance outdoor recreation opportunities in the state, and make sure that the benefits of those opportunities are available and meaningful for all Californians.

Best regards,



Louis Geltman  
Policy Director  
Outdoor Alliance

cc: Adam Cramer, Executive Director, Outdoor Alliance  
Chris Winter, Executive Director, Access Fund  
Wade Blackwood, Executive Director, American Canoe Association  
Mark Singleton, Executive Director, American Whitewater  
Dave Wiens, Executive Director, International Mountain Bicycling Association  
Todd Walton, Executive Director, Winter Wildlands Alliance  
Tom Vogl, Chief Executive Officer, The Mountaineers  
Phil Powers, Chief Executive Officer, American Alpine Club  
Sarah Bradham, Acting Executive Director, the Mazamas  
Keegan Young, Executive Director, Colorado Mountain Club  
Chad Nelson, CEO, Surfrider Foundation

