



### **Delta Counties Coalition**

Contra Costa County · Sacramento County · San Joaquin County · Solano County · Yolo County

*"Working together on water and Delta issues"*

March 11, 2022

Senator Henry Stern  
Chair, Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Water  
1021 O Street, Room 3220  
Sacramento, CA 96814

**Re: SB 1065 (Eggman) Abandoned and Derelict Commercial Vessels – Support  
Hearing: March 22, 2022**

Dear Senator Stern:

On behalf of the Delta Counties Coalition (DCC), we write in strong support of SB 1065 (Eggman). This bill will help keep our waterways clean, safe, and address the harm that commercial abandoned and derelict vessels (CADV) cause by creating a statewide program to fund the inventory, removal, and destruction of these vessels as well as a Coordinating Council to provide program oversight and coordination of removal efforts.

Unlike recreational vessels, such as ski, fishing and house boats, a statewide program does not exist to fund the removal and destruction of CADVs. State and local agencies have to rely on cooperation by vessel owners, lengthy legal approaches such as trespass and nuisance abatement actions, and limited federal actions.

The limitations and disjointed federal, state and local authorities and responsibilities coupled with no ongoing funding is a significant impediment to addressing this problem. SB 1065 addresses this issue by creating a statewide program and Coordinating Council of federal, state and local agencies that will identify, prioritize and fund the actual removal of CADVs from California's waterways.

A 2017 Department of Fish and Wildlife aerial survey of the entire Delta identified 55 commercial vessels and estimated removal cost of about \$34 million. While the Delta has a high concentration of these vessels, it is not the only waterway plagued by this problem. Also, the State Lands Commission received a one-time State General Fund allocation of \$12 million in FY 2021-22 to remove CADVs in the Delta. This commitment of funds is a great step toward removing these hazards but the size and enormity of the problem requires ongoing funding, operational support and policy guidance to make real progress toward cleaning up California's waterways.

Without a program and ongoing funding, CADVs will continue to cause environmental harm and damage to California's water quality, habitat, and ecosystems.

March 8, 2022

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For these reasons, the DCC requests your support for SB 1065 when it comes before you in the Senate Natural Resources Committee. Thank you for your consideration. Feel free to contact the DCC Coordinator Natasha Drane at [dranen@saccounty.net](mailto:dranen@saccounty.net).

Sincerely,




Don Nottoli  
Supervisor, Sacramento County



Mitch Mashburn  
Supervisor, Solano County



Karen Mitchoff  
Supervisor, Contra Costa County



Oscar Villegas  
Supervisor, Yolo County



Chuck Winn  
Supervisor, San Joaquin  
County

cc: Members, Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee  
Catherine Baxter, Consultant, Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee  
Todd Moffitt, Consultant, Senate Republican Caucus