

**DAS WILLIAMS**  
First District, Vice Chair

**JANET WOLF**  
Second District

**JOAN HARTMANN**  
Third District, Chair

**PETER ADAM**  
Fourth District

**STEVE LAVAGNINO**  
Fifth District



**COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA**

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**  
County Administration Building  
105 East Anapamu Street  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101  
Telephone: (805) 568-2190  
[www.countyofsb.org](http://www.countyofsb.org)

May 4, 2017

The Honorable Ricardo Lara  
Chair, Senate Appropriations Committee  
State Capitol, Room 5050  
Sacramento, CA 95814

***RE: Senate Bill 44 (Jackson) – Coastal hazard and legacy oil and gas well removal - SUPPORT***

Dear Senator Lara:

I am writing on behalf of the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors to state our support for SB 44 (Jackson). The Board of Supervisor's adopted a 2017 Legislative Platform that supports the funding for cleanup and removal of abandoned oil and gas wells. The 2017 Legislative Platform also supports the urgent prioritization of wells that pollute the marine environment.

Though the establishment of a \$2 million revolving fund is critical to providing complete removal and cleanup of these abandoned wells, it's important to note the significant number of legacy wells in Summerland, Elwood and in the Rincon areas of Santa Barbara County. The Division of Oil, Gas and Geothermal Resources and the State Lands Commission have identified 198 high priority legacy wells in the on shore and near shore environment of Santa Barbara County. The revolving fund is a modest amount and will require many years to eliminate the safety and environmental hazards associated with legacy oil and gas wells.

If you have questions about the Board's position, please contact the County's Legislative Coordinator, Dennis Bozanich at 805-568-3403 or [dbozanich@countyofsb.org](mailto:dbozanich@countyofsb.org).

Sincerely,

Cliff Berg  
*Legislative Advocate*

cc: Senator Hannah-Beth Jackson, Author  
Tobias Halvarson, Legislative Director, Senator Hannah-Beth Jackson  
Members, Senate Appropriations Committee  
Narisha Bonakdar, Consultant, Senate Appropriations Committee  
Rocel Bettencourt, Consultant, Senate Republican Caucus  
Assemblymember Jordan Cunningham, 35th Assembly District  
Assemblymember Monique Limon, 37th Assembly District  
Members, County of Santa Barbara Board of Supervisors  
Mona Miyasato, County Executive Officer  
Dennis Bozanich, Legislative Coordinator, County of Santa Barbara Board of Supervisors