

**BOARD OF
SUPERVISORS**

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August 8, 2018

The Honorable Lorena Gonzalez-Fletcher
Chair, Assembly Committee on Appropriations
State Assembly, State Capitol, Room 2114
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SB 237 (Hertzberg) Electricity: Direct Transactions - OPPOSE

Dear Assemblymember Gonzalez-Fletcher:

I am writing on behalf of the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors to respectfully request your opposition of SB 237 (Hertzberg), which would eliminate the cap on direct access for non-residential electric customers by July 1, 2019, allowing all nonresidential electricity consumers to migrate away from investor-owned utilities (IOUs) and community choice aggregators (CCAs), thus threaten the viability of CCAs, which procure more renewable energy, resulting in disabling a local government to reach its 100% renewable energy goals.

CCAs are expanding because localities are eager to take a more active role in California's climate change fight. The County of Santa Barbara's 2018 Legislative Platform clearly states its support for actions that are favorable to local CCAs, and opposition to actions that are not favorable. SB 237 (Hertzberg) would negatively impact the County's efforts to combat climate change and potentially provide cheaper electricity rates for its residents.

The County of Santa Barbara 2018 Legislative Principles also state that the County supports development of employment opportunities and economic vitality. Community Choice Energy programs (CCEs) save residents money, encourage local investment, and foster job growth in the renewable energy sector.

For these reasons, the County is respectfully requesting your opposition of SB 237 (Hertzberg). 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.

Sincerely,

Cliff Berg

Legislative Advocate

Governmental Advocates, Inc.

cc: The Honorable Senator Bob Hertzberg, Author
Members, Assembly Committee on Appropriations
Jay Dickenson, Consultant, Assembly Committee on Appropriations
Daryl Thomas, Consultant, Assembly Republican Caucus
Senator Hannah-Beth Jackson, 13th Senate District
Assemblymember Jordan Cunningham, 35th Assembly District
Assemblymember Monique Limon, 37th Assembly District
Dennis Bozanich, Legislative Coordinator, County of Santa Barbara Board of
Supervisor