

Submitter: Rachel Freed
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources and
Wildfire
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1154

I am writing to express my strong opposition to SB 1154, which proposes modifications to the laws concerning declarations of groundwater quality concern areas and groundwater management areas. While I understand the intent behind the bill may be to streamline processes, I believe that its implications could be detrimental to our environment and public health.

Groundwater is a vital resource for our communities, providing drinking water and supporting agriculture and ecosystems. The proposed changes could undermine existing protections and hinder our ability to effectively manage and safeguard this critical resource. By modifying the criteria for designating groundwater quality concern areas, we risk failing to identify and address pollution sources in a timely manner, potentially exposing communities to harmful contaminants.

Furthermore, the bill may weaken the authority of local management agencies, which play a crucial role in monitoring and responding to groundwater issues. Local agencies are often more attuned to the specific needs and challenges of their communities, and any reduction in their capacity to manage groundwater effectively could have serious long-term consequences.

I urge you to reconsider the potential impacts of SB 1154 on our groundwater management practices and the health of our communities. It is essential that we maintain robust protections to ensure the safety and sustainability of our water resources for future generations.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. I hope you will stand against SB 1154 and advocate for policies that prioritize the health of our groundwater and the communities that depend on it.