

Joint Chambers Commission of El Dorado County

March 13, 2009

RE: Support for Assembly Bill AB 268

Dear Assemblyman Gaines:

The El Dorado County Joint Chambers of Commerce has voted unanimously to support your Assembly Bill 268 that would repeal Chapter 4.5 commencing with Section 13290, of Division 7 of the California State Water Code regarding onsite wastewater treatment systems regulations.

In 2000, AB 885 was enacted to require the State Water Resource Control Board (SWRCB) to promulgate regulations or standards for the permitting and operation of onsite wastewater treatment systems by January 1, 2004. In November 2008, eight years after enactment of the legislation, the SWRCB released draft regulations for public comment. Unfortunately, the draft regulations would create onerous requirements on municipalities and property owners and would not recognize the differing complex geography, hydrogeology, and other characteristics and needs of communities throughout the state.

El Dorado County has existing onsite wastewater treatment system standards to assure onsite wastewater treatment systems do not impact local and regional quality.

Joint Chambers values and supports the protection of our unique resources and believes that the statutory and regulatory framework in place prior to AB 885 is working. AB 268 recognizes that and would ensure the protection of public health for onsite wastewater treatment systems in the county.

On behalf of the El Dorado County Joint Chambers of Commerce, I thank you for its introduction, and look forward to its swift passage through the Legislature.

Signed

Laurel Brent-Bumb, CEO
On behalf of;

El Dorado County Chamber of Commerce
El Dorado Hills Chamber Shingle Springs/Cameron Park Chamber



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