

May 13, 2011

The Honorable INSERT NAME
California State Assembly
State Capitol, Room INSERT ROOM NUMBER
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: HR 872 Support Letter

Dear Assemblymember NAME:

On behalf of the Mosquito and Vector Control Association of California (MVCAC), I am writing to request your support of HR 872 "Reducing Regulatory Burdens Act of 2011" by signing a joint letter of support being circulated by Assemblymember Perea. HR 872 was introduced in response to a new requirement that public health pesticide applicators must have an NPDES permit. Local mosquito and vector control agencies feel that this new requirement will have a major impact on their ability to protect the health of Californians. We are grateful that Assemblymember Perea has become a strong advocate of this bipartisan bill being discussed at the federal level. Please join Assemblymember Perea by signing a joint letter of support being sent to Senators Barbara Boxer and Dianne Feinstein.

California's State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) recently adopted a permitting program for Residual Pesticide Discharges for Vector Control Applications in response to a 6th Circuit Court of Appeals ruling. The decision reinterpreted the Clean Water Act (CWA) and brought these public health pesticide applications within the CWA jurisdiction "*if the application is in, over or near waters of the United States.*" This change constitutes a considerable increase in the scope of the original statute and we believe ignores both the original intent of the legislation and the successful vector control practices in place for more than 30 years. Complying with the provisions of the permit will significantly increase costs to the State of California and local government agencies that provide mosquito abatement services to protect public health and welfare, without providing any significant environmental benefit.

We respectfully request your consideration of signing this petition letter so our members can continue their efforts to keep Californians safe from mosquito-borne diseases at an affordable price. Please contact Jesse Cuevas in Assemblymember Perea's office (916-319-2031) if you are interested in being a signatory.

Most sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert Gay". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Robert Gay
President