



**SAN BENITO COUNTY  
AGENDA ITEM  
TRANSMITTAL FORM**

Dom Zanger  
District No. 1  
Vice-Chair

Kollin Kosmicki  
District No. 2  
Chair

Mindy Sotelo  
District No. 3

Angela Curro  
District No. 4

Ignacio Velazquez  
District No. 5

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**Item Number: 1.5**

**MEETING DATE:** 05/06/2025

**DEPARTMENT:** BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

**AGENDA ITEM PREPARER:** Vanessa Delgado

**DEPT HEAD/DIRECTOR:** Henie Ring

**SUBJECT:**

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

Approve Letter of Support for Assembly Bill 518 (Ward), Low Impact Camping Areas and authorize the Chair to sign.

SBC FILE NUMBER: 156

**AGENDA SECTION:**

CONSENT AGENDA

**BACKGROUND/SUMMARY:**

Assembly Bill 518 is critical to expanding access to the outdoors across California, supporting rural tourism economies, achieving the state's conservation and biodiversity goals, and diversifying income for farmers and ranchers. By creating a new framework for camping known as "low-impact camping areas" at the state level, AB 518 cuts through red tape and allows for local governments who opt in to better regulate small-scale camping on private land.

Outdoor recreation hit a record high in past years with more than 20 million Californians getting outside annually, representing \$81.5 billion in value added to the California economy in 2023. But more than half of all campers report difficulty finding available campsites. There are too few outdoor recreation accommodations for Californians and visitors, and this bottleneck is having negative impacts on outdoor access, rural economies, and recreation businesses. With reports that nearly 4,000 additional campsites could close across California this year due to federal budget cuts, local communities need as many tools in their toolbox to manage demand for camping and support their outdoor recreation economies.

**AB 518 addresses these issues by removing duplicative and expensive state development**

requirements and permitting barriers, giving local governments the chance to opt into creating permitting pathways for rural and agricultural landowners to host safe and responsible low-impact recreation on their properties.

**RESOLUTION OR ORDINANCE NEEDED FOR THIS ITEM:**

N/A

**CONTRACT NEEDED FOR THIS ITEM:**

N/A

**RFP AND BID HISTORY:**

N/A

**LAST CONTRACT AMOUNT OR N/A:**

N/A

**CONTRACT HISTORY (Describe all amendments and previous contracts):**

N/A

**STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS: 1. Operational Development & Excellence**

No

**STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS: 2. Planning And Sustainable Growth**

Yes

**STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS: 3. Technology**

No

**STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS: 4. Community Engagement**

Yes

**STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS: 5. Health & Safe Community**

No

**BUDGETED:**

N/A

**BUDGET ADJUSTMENT NEEDED:**

N/A

**SOURCE OF FUNDING:**

N/A

**UNFUNDED MANDATE:**

N/A

**SBC BUDGET LINE ITEM NUMBER:**

N/A

**CURRENT FY COST:**

N/A

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

Approve Letter of Support for Assembly Bill 518 (Ward), Low Impact Camping Areas and authorize the Chair to sign.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

[AB 518 Letter of Support San Benito County](#)