



The Honorable Jacqui Irwin  
State Capitol, Room 5119  
Sacramento, CA 94249-0013

March 6, 2018

**RE: AB 2377 - SUPPORT**

Dear Assemblymember Irwin,

As member organizations of the California Climate and Agriculture Network, we are pleased to support AB 2377, the Technical Assistance bill.

California's 77,000 farms and ranches are uniquely vulnerable to the effects of climate change, including constrained water resources, extreme weather events, and new pest and disease pressures. Many of agriculture's climate change mitigation strategies provide numerous agronomic, environmental and public health benefits, including increased water retention in soils, improved crop and forage yields, improved air and water quality, and increased energy and water savings.

California's Climate Smart Agriculture programs provide important financial resources to encourage farmers and ranchers to adopt farm management practices that will reduce greenhouse gas emissions and increase carbon sequestration to help meet the state's 2030 greenhouse gas emissions reduction target.

Improved delivery of technical assistance to farmers and ranchers, including project design, grant application assistance and project implementation, will allow for a greater number of producers – especially small and moderately-scaled producers and socially disadvantaged and women farmers and ranchers – to successfully participate in the Climate Smart Agriculture programs. Increased technical assistance for farmers and ranchers will also improve the overall climate impact of the Climate Smart Agriculture programs.

Thank you for your leadership in authoring AB 2377. We look forward to working with you to support its passage.

Sincerely,



Jane Sooby  
Senior Policy Specialist  
California Certified Organic Farmers (CCOF)



David Runsten  
Policy Director  
Community Alliance with Family Farmers

Reggie Knox

Reggie Knox  
Executive Director  
California Farmlink



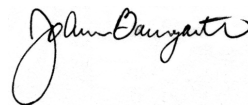
Jan Derecho  
Executive Director  
Ecological Farming Association



Rebecca Spector  
West Coast Director  
Center for Food Safety

*Dave Henson*

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Occidental Arts & Ecology Center



Jo Ann Baumgartner  
Director  
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