

April 19, 2021

The Honorable James Gallagher State Capitol, Room 2158 Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 379 (Gallagher) – SUPPORT

Dear Assemblymember Gallagher,

The Community Alliance with Family Farmers (CAFF) has represented small and mid-scale family farmers in California for over 40 years, seeking to preserve family-scale agriculture, promote local food systems, and advance environmental sustainability. We are pleased to support your AB 379, which would authorize the Department of Fish and Wildlife and its Wildlife Conservation Board to make grants, enter into conservation agreements, and transfer land to Native American Tribes in California.

It is hard to imagine organizations better suited to manage land for conservation purposes than the tribes and we are glad to see the tribes interested in land management. That the state cannot currently enter into such arrangements with the tribes is obviously an artefact of our state's history that needs to be rectified. For these reasons CAFF is in strong of AB 379.

Thank you for carrying this important legislation.

Dr Rut

Sincerely,

David Runsten Policy Director