



Date: February 10, 2021

To: Members, Assembly Natural Resources Committee

From: California Environmental Justice League

Subject: SUPPORT – AB 72 (Petrie-Norris), as introduced on December 7, 2020

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The California Environmental Justice League (CEJL) is pleased to SUPPORT AB 72 (Petrie-Norris), which would enact the Coastal Adaptation Permitting Act of 2021 and require the Natural Resources Agency to establish a coordinated and efficient regulatory review and permitting process for coastal adaptation projects, and to report findings to the Legislature, as specified.

According to California's Fourth Climate Change Assessment (Fourth Assessment), if left unmitigated, coastal climate changes could raise sea levels by 4.6 feet and cause approximately \$48 billion in property damage. Experts agree that early adaptation improves outcomes, and the first step toward adaptation is having clear and coordinated guidelines.

Assembly Bill 72 would:

- Provide a regulatory review and permitting process that addresses the unique nature of coastal adaptation projects.
- Streamline the approval process and expedite project completion.
- Promote opportunities for early collaboration with state and local authorities to mitigate unnecessary delays.
- Provide a more comprehensive and coordinated approach that increase legislative input and oversight in the state's coastal adaptation planning process.

For these and other reasons, we support AB 72.

Cc: The Honorable Cottie Petrie-Norris