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March 21, 2025

The Honorable Tasha Boerner California State Assembly 505 Lomas Santa Fe Drive, Suite 110 Solana Beach, CA 92075

Subject: Request for Support of Fish and Game Petition 2025-003

Dear Assemblywoman Boerner,

I am reaching out to request your support for Fish and Game Petition 2025-003, which seeks to review the classification of domestic ferrets under the Administrative Procedure Act (APA). As you may recall, when you served on the Encinitas City Council, we approached you for support of a ferret-friendly proclamation. You took the commendable step of consulting a veterinarian, who confirmed that ferrets are domestic animals and suitable pets for some individuals.

However, during your tenure in the State Assembly, you mentioned that your colleagues did not see enough legislative support for ferret legalization. We understand the political landscape and the influence of organizations like the Sierra Club and PETA-affiliated HSUS, but this petition does not seek a legislative act. It simply asks the California Fish and Game Commission to follow the required APA process in reviewing the outdated and unjustified classification of ferrets as "wild" and "detrimental."

California remains one of only two states that continue to ban domestic ferrets without ever conducting a proper review. The Fish and Game Commission has previously acknowledged that ferrets are domestic but refused to take action due to fear of litigation from environmental groups. This is not how government should function. The APA was established to ensure transparency, accountability, and due process—yet ferret owners have been denied all three.

We are not asking you to introduce legislation at this time. Instead, we respectfully urge you to publicly support Petition 2025-003 and encourage the Fish and Game Commission to conduct a fair and thorough review. This is a matter of good governance and ensuring that state agencies adhere to proper administrative procedures.

Your past willingness to engage with this issue gives us hope that you will take a stand for fairness and transparency. I would appreciate the opportunity to discuss this further at your convenience. Please let me know if we can schedule a time to meet or if there are any steps we can take to facilitate your support.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Pat Wright

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