

[Insert Date]
[Your Name]
[Your Address]
[Your Email Address]

The Honorable [Full Name]
California State Assembly
1315 10th Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Strong Opposition to AB52 Amendments as Written (Aguiar-Curry)

Dear Assemblymember [Insert Full Name],

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed amendments to [Assembly Bill 52 \(AB52\)](#) as currently written and sponsored by Assemblymember Cecilia Aguiar-Curry.

The proposed amendments to AB52 exclude California Tribal Nations with longstanding and irreplaceable knowledge of their ancestral homelands from critical decision-making processes related to Tribal cultural resources and environmental protection.

In opposing the proposed amendments as written, I stand in solidarity with yak titvu titvu yak tilhini Northern Chumash Tribe of San Luis Obispo County and Region (ytt Northern Chumash Tribe). ytt Northern Chumash Tribe are the documented lineal descendants of what is now San Luis Obispo County. Their families have lived in this region since time immemorial.

yak titvu titvu yak tilhini Northern Chumash Tribe are uniquely equipped to protect their sacred places and provide unassailable consultation on both projects and policy which affects their ancestral homelands.

Our primary concerns with the proposed AB52 amendments are as follows:

- The proposed amendments as currently written violate the Tribal sovereignty, freedom of religion, and human rights of non-federally recognized California Tribes with documented lineal descendancy to their ancestral homelands.
- The amendments as currently written directly contradict the objectives outlined in Executive Orders [B-10-11](#) and [N-15-19](#), which prioritize the protection of Native American cultural heritage and promote meaningful government-to-government consultation for all California Native American Tribes.
- The bill's division between federally and non-federally recognized Tribes arbitrarily prioritizes federally recognized Tribes while relegating non-federally recognized Tribes to a secondary, inferior status despite non-federally recognized Tribes' legitimate

connections to and knowledge of their homelands. The bill reinforces a hierarchical consultation process by giving “deference” to federally recognized Tribes for lands where there exists no federally recognized Tribe.

Call to Action

For these reasons, we respectfully urge you to oppose the AB52 amendments as written (Aguiar-Curry) thereby protecting the sovereignty of all California Native American Tribes, regardless of their federal recognition status. This approach would reflect the diversity and complexity of Tribal Nations in California and ensure the highest level of protection for the precious and irreplaceable cultural heritage of the entire state.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

[Insert Name]