



September 18, 2019

The Honorable Gavin Newsom  
Governor, State of California  
California State Capitol, First Floor  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: AB 296 (Cooley and Stern) – REQUEST FOR SIGNATURE**

Dear Governor Newsom:

The California Waterfowl Association (CWA) urges your signature of AB 296 (Cooley and Stern), which would establish the Climate Innovation Grant Program, within the Strategic Growth Council, to accelerate and support the research and development of new innovations that improve adaptability and resilience to the impacts of climate change.

Climate change threatens critical waterfowl habitat in California, including water supplies for managed wetlands and wildlife-friendly agriculture (e.g. rice) that are dependent on reliable supplies of water as well as coastal estuaries that are affected by sea level rise.

In order to combat the harmful impacts of climate change, improving innovation and addressing other environmental pollutants are needed. Utilizing public (non-general fund) and private funding to support projects that neutralize or remove emissions and pollutants can minimize current and future risks to human health and safety, quality of life, economic growth, ecosystems and the environment.

Please note that AB 296 is non-regulatory and relies on an incentive-based approach to helping to address climate change.

For these reasons, please sign AB 296 into law.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mark Hennelly". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mark Hennelly, Vice President of Legislative Affairs and Public Policy  
California Waterfowl Association

1346 Blue Oaks Boulevard, Roseville, CA 95678  
916.648.1406 • [www.calwaterfowl.org](http://www.calwaterfowl.org)