











Schwarzenegger
Institute for State and Global Policy













The Honorable Assembly Member Zbur 1021 O Street, Suite 4250 Sacramento, CA 95814

April 1, 2024

RE: Support for AB 2208-\$1 billion bond for offshore wind port infrastructure

Dear Assembly Member Zbur,

We applaud and support your leadership in addressing the climate crisis by supporting offshore wind energy and ensuring that California invests in port infrastructure improvements to support robust offshore wind development with AB 2208.

In 2022, California set a goal to generate 2-5 gigawatts of energy from offshore wind by 2030 and up to 25 gigawatts by 2045. According to the California Energy Commission's Draft AB 525 Strategic Plan released on January 19, 2024, it will cost at least \$11 billion to get the necessary port infrastructure ready for offshore wind development at this scale. AB 2208 will serve as a significant down payment on these infrastructure costs and help California deliver on the technology's promise of affordable renewable energy, clean air, and quality jobs in California.

AB 2208 would authorize a vote on the November ballot for \$1 billion dollars in general obligation bonds for seaport infrastructure improvements to facilitate offshore wind energy projects off the California coast.

It is critical that California prioritizes support for offshore wind now so that turbines can start spinning in time to meet our energy needs and clean energy goals. While the \$1 billion bond

would provide a down payment for the necessary funding to upgrade in-state port infrastructure, it will signal the state's firm commitment to offshore wind and catalyze additional strategies for the public and private investment required to meet California's offshore wind needs.

Thank you for your leadership and for authoring this important legislation that will help California take full advantage of renewable offshore wind energy to help meet our climate emissions and clean energy targets by 2045.

Sincerely,

Steven King, Environment California

Matthew Simmons, Environmental Protection Information Center

Pauline Seales, Santa Cruz Climate Action Network

Bill Allayaud, Environmental Working Group

Melissa Romero, California Environmental Voters

Gregory Stevens, California Interfaith Power and Light

Francisca Martinez, USC Schwarzenegger Institute

Meghan Sahli-Wells, Elected Officials to Protect America - Code Blue

Janet Cox, Climate Action California

V. John White, Clean Power Campaign

Jim Lindburg, Friends Committee on Legislation of California

Will Brieger, 350 Sacramento

Adam Stern, Offshore Wind California

Nancy Rader, California Wind Energy Association