



RBOC
Protecting your boating interests.

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PRESS RELEASE

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RBOC Lobbying to Save Cal Boating at 3rd Legislative Hearing

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Sacramento [June 8] - the nonprofit boater advocacy organization Recreational Boaters of California [RBOC] is continuing lobbying efforts in the State Capitol in opposition to the Governor's proposed elimination of the independent Cal Boating in advance of a June 11 hearing in the California Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Water.

The June 11 Senate hearing follows a June 3 hearing in the 10-member Budget Conference Committee, as well as a cancelled May 14 hearing in the Senate Budget Subcommittee #2.

Stated RBOC President Dave Breninger: "This Senate hearing will provide the boating community another opportunity to strongly advocate the preservation of the independent Cal Boating. We are working to increase recognition in the Capitol that this proposed maneuver would not save a single General Fund dollar and that Cal Boating is a model of efficiency, effectiveness, transparency, and leadership that is supported by the entire boating community."

These hearings are being held for two reasons. First, they are in response to the Governor's proposals in January and again in May to terminate the independent Department of Boating and Waterways [Cal Boating]. Second, they are being considered within the Legislature's challenging effort to address an extremely dire state revenue situation as soon as possible to address tens of billions of dollars in shortages.

"The boating community has been speaking with a strong and unified voice and we will continue during the upcoming months as this new proposal is considered and voted upon by state legislators," stated Breninger. We urge all boaters - sail, power, kayak, PWC, rafts - to contact their state legislators in opposition to this proposal."

The independently-funded, stand-alone Cal Boating provides accountability, transparency and leadership regarding the collection and use of boater-derived taxes and fees, and the best use of these funds for programs benefiting boating. This state's more than 3 million boating enthusiasts, who support a \$17 billion per year boating industry, must have a department with a Director whose primary focus is boating.

The efforts to keep Cal Boating separate are widely supported by city and county governments as well as marine organizations. The City and County of San Francisco has recently joined the County of Los Angeles and County of Marin in opposing the elimination of Cal Boating. A list is attached.

RBOC continues to urge boaters to contact their legislators in opposition to the proposed elimination of Cal Boating. For the latest developments - and how you can help - visit www.rbo.org.

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