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Assembly
California Legislature

BEN HUESO
ASSEMBLYMEMBER, SEVENTY-NINTH DISTRICT

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May 02, 2012

Little Hoover Commission
925 L Street, Suite 805
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Commissioners:

As the Little Hoover Commission prepares to hold hearings on the Governor's 2012 reorganization plan, I am writing regarding the proposed elimination of the California Department of Boating and Waterways (DBW). As an Assemblymember representing the San Diego region, I have had the opportunity of listening to the concerns of those in the San Diego port community. I am aware of the important work that the DBW does and have concerns that its elimination may have negative consequences that will be far outweighed by any non-general fund cost benefits.

This proposal has been reviewed and rejected several times in the past and I believe it should be rejected again. *Since DBW is self-funded by boaters' taxes and fees, eliminating it would not reduce general fund expenditures*. Furthermore, recreational boating-related businesses support over 284,000 direct and indirect jobs in the State; they deserve a department dedicated to supporting boating and its important role in our economic recovery.

The Department of Boating and Waterways has a proven record of helping our maritime businesses and community. I hope we can work together to continue supporting the Department of Boating and Waterways, while at the same time passing a responsible State budget. If you have any questions or comments please feel free to contact my office at 619-409-7979.

Sincerely,

BEN HUESO
Assemblymember, 79th District

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