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Alternate



Westport Municipal Advisory Council

P. O. Box 307, Westport, CA 95488
www.westportmac.org

March 21, 2012

The Honorable Wesley Chesbro
First Assembly District
California State Capitol
P.O. Box 942849
Sacramento, CA 94249-0001

Dear Assemblyperson Chesbro:

The Westport Municipal Advisory Council wishes to express its support for AB 1589 that you are co-sponsoring. The Westport MAC is an advisory body to the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors under California State law. We are concerned about the impacts on our community from the proposed closure of Westport Union Landing State Beach. We support AB 1589 because it provides funding for now and the future, giving the park system some measure of long-term security.

Westport is a small community of about 250 households on Mendocino County's northern coast. Originally a thriving lumber town in the late 1800s, Westport's current economy is strictly driven by tourism. Westport Union Landing State Beach is heavily used by visitors, especially in the summer time. Closure of this public place would impact campers and bikers who travel up and down California's coast on U.S. Highway One, while having a devastating impact on local businesses including the small community store that operates our local post office. If the store closes, residents and visitors would have to drive to the City of Fort Bragg fifteen miles away for food and postal services.

Thank you for your effort in promoting this proposed bill.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Thad M. Van Bueren".

Thad M. Van Bueren, Chairperson

cc: Assemblyperson Jared Huffman
Assemblyperson Roger Dickinson
Mendocino County Board of Supervisors
Mendocino Coast Chamber of Commerce