



# SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY FARM BUREAU

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June 21, 2022

The Honorable Bill Dodd  
California State Senate  
1021 O Street, Suite 6620  
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SB 856 (Dodd): Wild pigs: validations – SUPPORT

Dear Senator Dodd:

On behalf of San Luis Obispo County farmers and ranchers, I write to inform you that San Luis Obispo County Farm Bureau **supports your Senate Bill 856** as amended in the Assembly on June 20.

We greatly appreciate you addressing the concerns we had raised regarding SB 856 earlier this Session. As introduced, SB 856 would have abrogated farmers', ranchers', and other property owners' right to immediately take a wild pig damaging property when that property damage occurs at nighttime, instead requiring property owners to give the California Department of Fish and Wildlife 24-hours' notice before taking property damaging pigs at night. Amendments taken in the Senate Appropriations Committee addressed this issue by eliminating the requirement to provide 24 hours' notice to CDFW, restoring a farmer or rancher's ability to immediately take property damaging pigs under existing Fish & Game Code § 4181.1.

Our organization also raised concerns with a provision of SB 856 which would have prohibited the operation of an enclosed hunting preserve. These preserves provide a valuable service for wounded warriors, new and inexperienced hunters, the elderly, and several other constituencies. They benefit local communities and economies. Finally, these preserves are a source of non-farm income for a small number of farmers and ranchers, providing a hedge against the financial risk and uncertainty inherent in farming and ranching. Given the important role that these enclosed hunting preserves serve for farmers, ranchers, sportsmen, and the communities in which they are located, our organization greatly appreciates the amendments taken prior to SB 856's hearing in the Assembly Water, Parks, and Wildlife Committee which exempt existing operators of contained hunting preserves (as of January 1, 2022) from the prohibitions against operating such preserves detailed in Section 27 of the bill.

These amendments resolve our concerns, and as a result we are pleased to **support SB 856** provided that the protections detailed above remain in the bill.

Sincerely,

Brent Burchett, Executive Director  
San Luis Obispo County Farm Bureau