



The Honorable Lois Wolk
State Capitol, Room 5114
Sacramento, CA 95814-4900

May 11, 2016

Position: SB 1350 (Wolk) -- Support

Dear Senator Wolk,

On behalf of the California Climate and Agriculture Network and the Community Alliance with Family Farmers, we write to strongly support Senate Bill 1350. The bill builds upon SB 367, the 2015 legislation authored by you and sponsored by CalCAN and CAFF, by creating the much-needed Healthy Soils program at the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA).

The recent amendments to SB 1350 strengthen the bill by adding greater climate change and agriculture expertise to the Environmental Farming Science Advisory Panel. Additionally, the amendments strengthen the definition of healthy soils and the program parameters.

SB 1350 comes at critical time in California as the state's farmers and ranchers experience a record-breaking drought. Efforts like the Healthy Soils Initiative can work with farmers and ranchers to improve agricultural soil management practices that increase soil carbon, reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve overall resilience to a changing climate.

Thank you for your on-going leadership on agricultural solutions to climate change. We look forward to our continued work with you and your office.

Sincerely,

Jeanne Merrill
Policy Director
CalCAN

David Runsten
Policy Director
CAFF