



JEFF FLORES

SUPERVISOR - THIRD DISTRICT

March 21, 2023

Senator Shannon Grove
1021 O Street, Room 7150
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Senator Grove:

I am writing in support of your legislation, SB 15. This important bill will express the Legislature's intent to prohibit the import of crude oil into California from foreign nations that have displayed human rights abuses, and or with environmental standards that are lower than those in California.

Importantly, this bill would also require the California Air Resources Board to report the amount of pollution released into the air from tankers carrying oil that is being imported into our state.

California's Governor wants an end to oil consumption while ignoring the reality that tens of millions of families that rely on gasoline for their cars, and thousands of everyday products that are derived from petroleum including nearly every lifesaving device used in our local hospitals and intensive care units. **California's demand for oil has been reduced by less than one percent since 1999 and will not be significantly reduced anytime soon.**

Importing millions of gallons of oil each year from countries that sanction serious human rights violations while at the same time polluting our water, air and planet is a travesty. Let us instead continue to produce our own clean energy right here at home while supporting thousands of great paying jobs that support primarily ethnic minorities with disadvantaged backgrounds. California has the most restrictive and environmentally conscious policies in the entire world when it comes to the energy sector, and we should continue to utilize those policies by producing our own energy.

Again, I wholeheartedly support SB 15 to let California continue to be the leader of the world in environmentally friendly energy production while keeping thousands of people employed. **We must practice what we preach which means no longer importing oil from these bad actors when we can do it better, cleaner and safer right here at home.**

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jeff Flores", is written over a blue circular stamp.

Jeff Flores
Chairman
Kern County Board of Supervisors