



CUSTOMS BROKERS AND FORWARDERS ASSOCIATION OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA



**** ASSEMBLY FLOOR ALERT ****

AB 1191 (Bonta) – Oakland Waterfront Ballpark Act

OPPOSE

We are writing to express our strong opposition to AB 1191. The bill will facilitate the unnecessary development of a new ballpark stadium, luxury housing and waterfront, commercial real estate at the expense of the maritime industry at the Howard Terminal and East Oakland communities.

AB 1191 prematurely mandates action by the State Lands Commission to expedite these waterfront developments, without justification and years before a specific Howard Terminal project's impacts and alternatives have been evaluated in an Environmental Impact Report. No action by the State Lands Commission to exchange public trust lands is justified at this time.

Oakland's working industrial waterfront is a significant hub of economic activity and thousands of middle-class industrial jobs for the East Bay. Its success is critical to the entire region's economic future. The port's overall economic value is approximately \$130 billion, and the port contributes approximately \$698 million in state and local taxes to California. The port's maritime industry generated over \$150 million in operating revenues alone in 2018 and is projected to generate nearly \$160 million in 2019.

The Oakland A's proposed ballpark stadium plan is fundamentally incompatible with maritime operations at Howard Terminal, and there is simply no way for the Howard Terminal project to proceed without forcing out these waterfront businesses and the good industrial jobs they sustain.

There is a better solution. The Coliseum has been home to the Oakland A's since they played their first game there in 1968. Unlike the proposed Howard Terminal site, which is remote and will force fans into cars, the Coliseum is also connected to public transit with a BART stop and Amtrak just steps away. Oakland has already invested heavily in infrastructure at the coliseum site—including the sacrifice of East Oakland residents who lost their homes through eminent domain to make way for the stadium. AB 1191 is essentially forsaking East Oakland, an area that should be reinvigorated with new economic opportunity.

Having the Oakland A's remain and redevelop the current site with a new stadium, additional housing and commercial real estate will honor East Oakland's legacy and preserve the waterfront's maritime industry. East Oakland deserves the revitalization a world-class stadium surrounded by housing, shopping, restaurants and entertainment could bring.

With this in mind, we ask that you and the legislature OPPOSE AB 1191 so that it does not jeopardize maritime jobs and abandon deserving East Oakland residents.

Sincerely,

American Waterways Operators
California Trucking Association
Customs Brokers and Forwarders Association of Northern California
Harbor Trucking Association
Inland Boatman's Union (IBU)
International Longshore and Warehouse Union (ILWU) - Local 10
International Longshore and Warehouse Union (ILWU) - Local 34, Marine Clerks
Kingdom Builders Christian Fellowship
Marine Engineers' Beneficial Association
Northern California District Council of ILWU
Pacific Merchant Shipping Association
Save the Bay
Sailors Union of the Pacific
Schnitzer Steel Industries, Inc.
Transportation Institute