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Jun 17, 2025

California Horse Racing Board  
1010 Hurley Way, Suite 300  
Sacramento, CA 95825

**Subject: Request for Approval of Race Dates at the Big Fresno Fairgrounds**

To the Honorable Members of the California Horse Racing Board:

We respectfully submit this letter in support of approving race dates for live horse racing at the Big Fresno Fairgrounds. Horse racing has been a cornerstone of the Big Fresno Fair since 1884, and its legacy is deeply woven into the cultural and economic fabric of our region.

The Central Valley, and Fresno County in particular, is the heart of California's agricultural economy. The horse racing sector, rooted in animal husbandry and land stewardship, aligns naturally with the values and identity of our agricultural communities. The return of live racing would not only honor this tradition but also provide a critical boost to the local economy—supporting jobs in agriculture, hospitality, equine care, and associated industries.

Moreover, the horse races at the Fresno Fair have historically drawn significant crowds and strong community engagement. Their absence has been deeply felt. The public's desire to see their return is strong and bipartisan, with widespread support from local leaders, elected officials, and families who view this event as an integral part of our heritage.

We urge the California Horse Racing Board to recognize the importance of this institution and to grant approval of race dates at the Big Fresno Fairgrounds. Doing so would not only preserve a long-standing tradition but also reinforce the connection between California's agricultural legacy and the equine industry.

Thank you for your time and thoughtful consideration.


Sincerely,



David Tangipa  
Assemblymember, 8<sup>th</sup> District



Garry Bredefeld  
Fresno County Supervisor, District 2



Shannon Grove  
Senator, 12<sup>th</sup> District



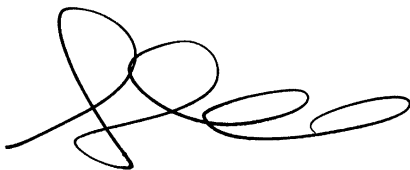
Luis Chavez  
Fresno County Supervisor, District 3



Joaquin Arambula  
Assemblymember, 31<sup>st</sup> District



Ernest Buddy Mendes  
Fresno County Supervisor, District 4



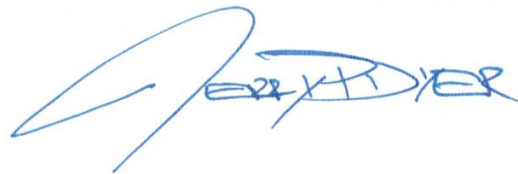
Stan Ellis  
Assemblymember, 32<sup>nd</sup> District



Nathan Magsig  
Fresno County Supervisor, District 5



Brian Pacheco  
Fresno County Supervisor, District 1



Jerry Dyer  
Mayor, City of Fresno



Brandon Vang  
Fresno City Councilmember, District 5



Nick Richardson  
Fresno City Councilmember, District 6



Nelson Esparza  
Fresno City Councilmember, District 7