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Sierra Club Vows to Continue Push for Fracking Moratorium SB 1132 fails to clear Senate, but moratorium supporters indicate effort will continue

Sacramento – A bill that would have imposed a moratorium on hydraulic fracturing (fracking) and well stimulation during oil extraction fell short of passage in the State Senate today.

Senate Bill 1132, jointly authored by Senator Holly J. Mitchell (D-Los Angeles) and Senator Mark Leno (D-San Francisco), was supported by a broad range of interests including environmental and environmental justice groups, businesses, labor organizations, tribal groups, and community groups.

Statement from Kathryn Phillips, director, Sierra Club California:

“Sierra Club California is firmly committed to establishing a moratorium on fracking and acid well stimulation in the state and we will continue fighting until these damaging practices are suspended. Today’s setback says more about the deep pockets of Big Oil than it does about the priorities of California voters, 68% of whom have indicated they support a moratorium.

“Evidence is mounting that fracking is unlikely to create a significant number of jobs here, but will lead to more air pollution, water pollution, water scarcity, and increased earthquake risk. Governor Brown should exercise his executive powers to impose a moratorium and protect our state’s air, water and seismic safety.

“Oil investors should also take heed that momentum in California is moving us closer to pressing pause on these dangerous practices. Given a choice between investing in clean energy or fracking, smart money will go to clean energy.

“It won’t be today. It may not be next week. But Californians will ultimately put an end to fracking and other extreme extraction methods that threaten our great state’s future.”

Sierra Club California is the legislative and regulatory advocacy arm of the 13 Sierra Club chapters in California, representing more than 380,000 members and supporters statewide.