

County Executive  
David Villanueva

Governmental Relations and  
Legislative Officer  
Elisia De Bord



## County of Sacramento

Board of Supervisors  
Phillip R. Serna, District 1  
Patrick Kennedy, District 2  
Rich Desmond, District 3  
Rosario Rodriguez, District 4  
Patrick Hume, District 5

September 15, 2025

The Honorable Gavin Newsom  
State of California  
1021 O Street, Suite 9000  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: AB 1288 (Addis): Registered Environmental Health Specialists.  
Request for Signature

Dear Governor Newsom:

On behalf of the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors, I respectfully request that you sign AB 1288 (Addis), which expands the Registered Environmental Health Specialists (REHS) trainee pool and enhances the training period used to prepare trainees to pass the state exam.

REHSs protect our communities every day as they ensure safe food, clean drinking water, and shield our neighborhoods from environmental hazards. They are instrumental in emergency responses, such as wildfires. However, our environmental health workforce is in a crisis with widespread vacancies due to outdated training requirements and limited registration flexibility.

Sacramento County actively recruits, trains, and employs REHSs who meet all statutory requirements to perform critical inspection and service-related functions. Our team includes highly skilled professionals with specialized expertise in water quality, sanitation, food safety, employee housing, noise pollution, and waste management. These individuals play a vital role in safeguarding public health and ensuring the well-being of our community every day. Without a steady pipeline of qualified candidates, the County cannot effectively recruit and maintain the staffing levels necessary to perform this essential work. AB 1288 enables the County to continue to offer meaningful training opportunities to recent graduates and others entering the environmental health field, so we remain equipped to meet the evolving needs of our community.

For these reasons, Sacramento County urges you to sign AB 1288. Please feel free to contact me at (916) 874-4627 or [deborde@saccounty.gov](mailto:deborde@saccounty.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Elisia De Bord".

Elisia De Bord  
Governmental Relations and Legislative Officer