Case 2	2:24-cv-00801-ODW-PVC	Document 85 #:7955	Filed 03/17/25	Page 1 of 28 Page ID
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11	IN THI	E UNITED STA	TES DISTRIC	T COURT
12	FOR THE	E CENTRAL DI	STRICT OF CA	ALIFORNIA
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15	CHAMBER OF COMM UNITED STATES OF A	MERICA,		11-ODW-PVC
16	CALIFORNIA CHAMB COMMERCE, AMERIC	CAN FARM	Amended Co	Answer to Plaintiffs' omplaint for Declaratory
17	BUREAU FEDERATIO ANGELES COUNTY B	N, LOS USINESS	and Injuncti	
18	FEDERATION, CENTR BUSINESS FEDERATION	AL VALLEY ON, and	Date: Time:	N/A N/A
19	WESTERN GROWERS ASSOCIATION,		Courtroom: Judge:	5D The Honorable Otis D.
20		Plaintiffs,		Wright, II Not Set
21	v.		Action Filed:	1/30/2024
22	LIANE M. RANDOLPH	, in her official		
23	capacity as Chair of the C Resources Board, and ST	EVEN S.		
24	CLIFF, in his official cap Executive Officer of the	California Air		
25	Resources Board, and RO BONTA, in his official c	apacity as		
26	Attorney General of Cali			
27		Defendants.		
28				

- Defendants Liane M Randolph, in her official capacity as Chair of the California Air Resources Board (CARB); Steven S. Cliff, in his official capacity as Executive Officer of the California Air Resources Board; and Rob Bonta, in his official capacity as Attorney General of the State of California (collectively "Defendants") hereby submit their answer to Plaintiffs' Amended Complaint for Declaratory and Injunctive Relief (ECF No. 28). All factual allegations not expressly admitted below are denied.
- 1. Paragraph 1 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no response is required. Paragraph 1 quotes, cites to, and purports to paraphrase Assembly Comm. on Nat'l Res., Analysis of S. B. 261 (2023–2024 Reg. Sess.) July 7, 2023. This document speaks for itself and provides the best evidence of its contents. The references in Paragraph 1 to federalism, the Clean Air Act, and interstate commerce are no longer relevant because Plaintiffs' Supremacy Clause and Extraterritoriality claims were dismissed (ECF No. 77 at 23-24), and Plaintiffs did not amend. To the extent a further response is required, Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 1.
- 2. The first four sentences of Paragraph 2 purport to state Plaintiffs' policy views and are not facts that require a response. Defendants are also without sufficient information to form a belief as to the truth of these allegations, and on that basis deny them. The remainder of paragraph 2 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no response is required. To the extent a further response is required, Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 2.
- 3. Defendants admit that Governor Gavin Newsom signed S. B. 253 and 261 into law on October 7, 2023.
- 4. Paragraph 4 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no response is required. Paragraph 4 also cites and purports to paraphrase S.B. 253 and

¹ On February 27, 2025, the Court granted the parties' stipulated Answer deadline of March 17, 2025. (ECF No. 81).

1 S.B. 261. These laws speak for themselves and provide the best evidence of their 2 contents. Paragraph 4 further quotes, cites to, and purports to paraphrase a 3 Statement of Sen. Scott Wiener (Sept. 17, 2023), http://tinyurl.com/27up3ded. 4 Defendants are without sufficient information to form a belief as to the truth of the 5 characterizations in this document, as the web link refers to a webpage that is 6 currently unavailable, and on that ground, Defendants deny these allegations. In any 7 event, if that webpage were available, the referenced document would speak for itself and provide the best evidence of its contents. Paragraph 4 also quotes, cites to, 8 9 and purports to paraphrase Sen. Judiciary Comm., Analysis of S.B. 253 (2023–2024) 10 Reg. Sess.) Apr. 14, 2023 at 12, and Signing Statement of Gov. Newsom, S.B. 253 11 (Oct. 7, 2023), http://tinyurl.com/4mz6by3p. These documents speak for 12 themselves and provide the best evidence of their contents. To the extent a further 13 response is required, Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 4. 14

5. Paragraph 5 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no response is required. To the extent a further response is required, Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 5.

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- 6. Paragraph 6 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no response is required. To the extent a further response is required, Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 6.
- 7. Paragraph 7 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no response is required. Moreover, many of these allegations are contradicted by publicly available information, and Defendants deny Plaintiffs' allegations on this ground. Paragraph 7 also quotes, cites to, and purports to paraphrase Assembly Comm. on Nat'l Res., Analysis of SB. 261 (2023–2024 Reg. Sess.) July 7, 2023 and Remarks of Assemblymember Rick Chavez Zbur, Debate on S.B. 253 (Sept. 11, 2023), http://tinyurl.com/taajvam8. These documents speak for themselves and provide the best evidence of their contents. To the extent these allegations are relevant to Plaintiffs' Supremacy Clause and Extraterritoriality claims, those claims

were dismissed (ECF No. 77 at 23-24), and Plaintiffs did not amend, so no response is required. To the extent a further response is required, Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 7.

- 8. Paragraph 8 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no response is required. Plaintiffs' Supremacy Clause and Extraterritoriality claims were dismissed (ECF No. 77 at 23-24), and Plaintiffs did not amend, so no response as to those allegations is required. To the extent a further response is required, Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 8.
- 9. Defendants are without sufficient information to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations in Paragraph 9, and on that basis deny those allegations.
- 10. Defendants are without sufficient information to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations in Paragraph 10, and on that basis deny those allegations.
- 11. Defendants are without sufficient information to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations in the first four sentences of Paragraph 11, and on that basis deny those allegations. The remaining allegations contained in sentences 5 through 7 of paragraph 11, consist of argument and legal conclusions to which no response is required. Moreover, many of these allegations are contradicted by publicly available information, and Defendants deny Plaintiffs' allegations on this ground. To the extent a further response is required, Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 11.
- 12. Defendants are without sufficient information to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations in Paragraph 12, and on that basis deny those allegations.
- 13. Defendants are without sufficient information to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations in Paragraph 13, and on that basis deny those allegations.
- 14. Defendants are without sufficient information to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations in Paragraph 14, and on that basis deny those allegations.

- 15. Defendants admit that Liane M. Randolph is currently the Chair of the California Air Resources Board (CARB), and that Plaintiffs have sued her only in her official capacity.
- 16. Defendants admit that Steven S. Cliff is currently CARB's Executive Officer, and that Plaintiffs have sued him only in his official capacity.
- 17. Defendants admit that Rob Bonta is the current Attorney General of California and that Plaintiffs have sued him only in his official capacity. The remainder of Paragraph 17 quotes, cites to, and purports to paraphrase Senate Bill 253 and the California Constitution. These documents speak for themselves and provide the best evidence of their contents. Moreover, these statements consist of argument and legal conclusions to which no response is required. To the extent a further response is required, Defendants deny these remaining allegations in Paragraph 17.
- 18. Paragraph 18 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no response is required. To the extent a further response is required, Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 18.
- 19. Paragraph 19 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no response is required. Paragraph 19 also quotes, cites to, and purports to paraphrase *Free Enter. Fund v. Pub. Co. Accounting Oversight Bd., 56*1 U.S. 477, 489 (2010). This case speaks for itself and provides the best evidence of its contents. To the extent a further response is required, Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 19.
- 20. Paragraph 20 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no response is required. Paragraph 20 also quotes, cites to, and purports to paraphrase *California Rest. Ass'n v. City of Berkeley*, 89 F.4th 1094 (9th Cir. 2024). This case speaks for itself and provides the best evidence of its contents. Defendants are without sufficient information to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations in the third sentence of Paragraph 11, and on that basis deny those allegations. To the

extent a further response is required, Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 20.

- 21. Paragraph 21 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no response is required. To the extent further response is required, Defendants deny the allegations of Paragraph 21. Defendants did not contest venue in the Central District of California.
- 22. Paragraph 22 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no response is required. Defendants are also without sufficient information to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations in lines 14 through 15 of Paragraph 22, and on that basis deny those allegations. To the extent further response is required, Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 22. Defendants did not contest venue in the Central District of California.
- 23. Paragraph 23 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no response is required. Paragraph 23 also quotes, cites to, and purports to paraphrase a Statement of Sen. Scott Wiener (Sept. 17, 2023), http://tinyurl.com/27up3ded. Defendants are without sufficient information to form a belief as to the truth of the characterizations in this document, as the web link refers to a webpage that is currently unavailable, and on that ground, Defendants deny these allegations. In any event, if that webpage were available, the referenced document would speak for itself and provide the best evidence of its contents. Paragraph 23 also quotes, cites to, and purports to paraphrase Sen. Judiciary Comm., Analysis of S.B. 253 (2023–2024 Reg. Sess.) Apr. 14, 2023. This document speaks for itself and provides the best evidence of its contents. To the extent a further response is required, Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 23.
- 24. Paragraph 24 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no response is required. Paragraph 24 also quotes, cites to, and purports to paraphrase Sen. Judiciary Comm., Analysis of S.B. 253 (2023–2024 Reg. Sess.) Apr. 14, 2023 and Sen. Judiciary Comm., Analysis of S.B. 261 (2023–2024 Reg. Sess.) Apr. 14,

1 2023. These documents speak for themselves and provide the best evidence of their 2 contents. To the extent a further response is required, Defendants deny the 3 allegations in Paragraph 24. 4 25. Paragraph 25 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no 5 response is required. Paragraph 25 also quotes, cites to, and purports to paraphrase 6 California Passes First-in-the-Nation Bill to Expand Transparency in California 7 Emissions, SIERRA CLUB CALIFORNIA (Sept. 12, 2023), 8 http://tinyurl.com/4v8z34fk, California Lawmakers Approve Groundbreaking 9 Climate Disclosure Bill, PUBLIC CITIZEN (Sept. 12, 2023), http://tinyurl.com/36svd2t3, and Sacramento Rally to Unite for Climate 10 Transparency & Passage of SB 253 & SB 261, CERES (Aug. 22, 2023), 11 12 http://tinyurl.com/wz8tzcac. These documents speak for themselves and provide the 13 best evidence of their contents. To the extent a further response is required, 14 Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 25. 15 26. Paragraph 26 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no 16 response is required. Paragraph 26 also quotes, cites to, and purports to paraphrase 17 Senate Bills 253 and 261. The Senate Bills speak for themselves and provide the 18 best evidence of their contents. To the extent a further response is required, 19 Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 26. 20 27. Paragraph 27 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no 21 response is required. Paragraph 27 also quotes, cites to, and purports to paraphrase 22 Sen. Judiciary Comm., Analysis of S.B. 253 (2023–2024 Reg. Sess.) Apr. 14, 2023. 23 This document speaks for itself and provides the best evidence of its contents. To 24 the extent a further response is required, Defendants deny the allegations in 25 Paragraph 27. 26 28. Paragraph 28 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no 27 response is required. Paragraph 28 also quotes, cites to, and purports to paraphrase

Sen. Judiciary Comm., Analysis of S.B. 253 (2023–2024 Reg. Sess.) Apr. 14, 2023

and Remarks of Sen. Wiener, Sen. Env'l Quality Comm. Hearing on S.B. 253 (Mar. 25, 2023) http://tinyurl.com/yf66mbdn. These documents speak for themselves and provide the best evidence of their contents. To the extent a further response is required, Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 28.

- 29. Defendants are without sufficient information to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations in Paragraph 29, and on that basis deny those allegations. To the extent a further response is required, Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 29.
- 30. Paragraph 30 quotes, cites to, and purports to paraphrase Sen. Judiciary Comm., Analysis of S.B. 253 (2023–2024 Reg. Sess.) Apr. 14, 2023. This document speaks for itself and provides the best evidence of its contents. To the extent a further response is required, Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 30.
- 31. Paragraph 31 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no response is required. Paragraph 31 also quotes, cites to, and purports to paraphrase Sen. Judiciary Comm., Analysis of S.B. 253 (2023–2024 Reg. Sess.) Apr. 14, 2023. This document speaks for itself and provides the best evidence of its contents. To the extent a further response is required, Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 31.
- 32. Paragraph 32 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no response is required. Paragraph 32 also quotes, cites to, and purports to paraphrase Signing Statement of Gov. Newsom, S.B. 253 (Oct. 7, 2023), http://tinyurl.com/4mz6by3p and Signing Statement of Gov. Newsom, S.B. 261 (Oct. 7, 2023), http://tinyurl.com/ycy7vk2w. These documents speak for themselves and provide the best evidence of their contents. To the extent a further response is required, Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 32.

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- 33. Paragraph 33 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no response is required. To the extent a further response is required, Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 33.
- 34. Paragraph 34 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no response is required. Paragraph 34 also quotes, cites to, and purports to paraphrase Sen. Rules Comm., Analysis of S.B. 261 (2023–2024 Reg. Sess.) Sept. 12, 2023, and Senate Bill 261. These documents speak for themselves and provide the best evidence of their contents. To the extent a further response is required, Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 34.
- 35. Paragraph 35 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no response is required. Paragraph 35 also quotes, cites to, and purports to paraphrase Janus v. Am. Fed'n of State, Cnty. & Mun. Emps., Council 31, 138 S. Ct. 2448 (2018). This case speaks for itself and provides the best evidence of its contents. To the extent a further response is required, Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 35.
- 36. Paragraph 36 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no response is required. Paragraph 36 also quotes, cites to, and purports to paraphrase Senate Bill 261. The Senate Bill speaks for itself and provides the best evidence of its contents. To the extent a further response is required, Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 36.
- 37. Paragraph 37 quotes, cites to, and purports to paraphrase Senate Bill 261. The Senate Bill speaks for itself and provides the best evidence of its contents. To the extent a further response is required. Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 37.
- 38. Paragraph 38 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no response is required. Paragraph 38 also quotes, cites to, and purports to paraphrase Senate Bill 261. The Senate Bill speaks for itself and provides the best evidence of

its contents. To the extent a further response is required, Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 38.

- 39. Paragraph 39 quotes, cites to, and purports to paraphrase Senate Bill 261. The Senate Bill speaks for itself and provides the best evidence of its contents. To the extent a further response is required, Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 39.
- 40. Paragraph 40 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no response is required. Paragraph 40 also quotes, cites to, and purports to paraphrase Senate Bill 261. The Senate Bill speaks for itself and provides the best evidence of its contents. To the extent a further response is required, Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 40.
- 41. Paragraph 41 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no response is required. To the extent a further response is required, Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 41.
- 42. Paragraph 42 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no response is required. Paragraph 42 also quotes, cites to, and purports to paraphrase Senate Bill 261. The Senate Bill speaks for itself and provides the best evidence of its contents. To the extent a further response is required, Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 42.
- 43. Paragraph 43 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no response is required. Paragraph 43 also quotes, cites to, and purports to paraphrase Senate Bill 261. The Senate Bill speaks for itself and provides the best evidence of its contents. To the extent a further response is required, Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 43.
- 44. Paragraph 44 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no response is required. Paragraph 44 also quotes, cites to, and purports to paraphrase Senate Bill 253 and Assembly Floor Analysis of S.B. 253 (2023–2024 Reg. Sess.) Sept. 7, 2023. These documents speak for themselves and provide the best evidence

of their contents. To the extent a further response is required, Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 44.

- 45. Paragraph 45 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no response is required. To the extent a further response is required, Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 45.
- 46. Paragraph 46 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no response is required. Paragraph 46 also quotes, cites to, and purports to paraphrase Senate Bill 253. The Senate Bill speaks for itself and provides the best evidence of its contents. To the extent a further response is required, Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 46.
- 47. Paragraph 47 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no response is required. Paragraph 47 quotes, cites to, and purports to paragraph Senate Bill 253. The Senate Bill speaks for itself and provides the best evidence of its contents. To the extent a further response is required, Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 47.
- 48. Paragraph 48 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no response is required. Paragraph 48 also quotes, cites to, and purports to paragraph Senate Bill 253. The Senate Bill speaks for itself and provides the best evidence of its contents. To the extent a further response is required, Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 48.
- 49. Paragraph 49 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no response is required. Paragraph 49 also quotes, cites to, and purports to paragraph Senate Bill 253. The Senate Bill speaks for itself and provides the best evidence of its contents. To the extent a further response is required, Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 49.
- 50. Paragraph 50 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no response is required. To the extent a further response is required, Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 50.

deny the allegations in Paragraph 51.

- 51. Paragraph 51 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no response is required. Paragraph 51 also quotes, cites to, and purports to paraphrase GREENHOUSE GAS PROTOCOL, TECHNICAL GUIDANCE FOR CALCULATING SCOPE 3 EMISSIONS 18 (version 1.0) (2013), http://tinyurl.com/2f9n52k2. This document speaks for itself and provides the best evidence of its contents. To the extent a further response is required, Defendants
- 52. Paragraph 52 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no response is required. Paragraph 52 also quotes, cites to, and purports to paraphrase Comment of the Williams Companies, Inc. 14, SEC File No. S7-10-22 (June 17, 2022), http://tinyurl.com/y99amdcd and Enhancement and Standardization of Climate-Related Disclosures for Investors, 87 Fed. Reg. 21,334, 21,387 (proposed Apr. 11, 2022). These documents speak for themselves and provide the best evidence of their contents. To the extent a further response is required, Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 52.
- 53. Paragraph 53 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no response is required. Moreover, these allegations are contradicted by publicly available information, and Defendants deny Plaintiffs' allegations on this ground. Defendants are also without sufficient information to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations in the last sentence of Paragraph 53, and on that basis deny those allegations. To the extent a further response is required, Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 53.
- 54. The first sentence of Paragraph 54 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no response is required. Moreover, Defendants are without sufficient information to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations in Paragraph 54. Defendants admit that Plaintiffs have filed a declaration from Mr. Hawkins consistent with these statements, but Defendants have not been permitted to depose

this declarant or otherwise interrogate these statements. On these bases, Defendants deny these allegations.

- 55. Paragraph 55 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no response is required. Moreover, Defendants are without sufficient information to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations in Paragraph 55. Defendants admit that Plaintiffs have filed a declaration from Mr. Hawkins consistent with these statements, but Defendants have not been permitted to depose this declarant or otherwise interrogate these statements. On these bases, Defendants deny these allegations.
- 56. Paragraph 56 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no response is required. Moreover, Defendants are without sufficient information to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations in Paragraph 56. Defendants admit that Plaintiffs have filed a declaration from Mr. Hawkins consistent with these statements, but Defendants have not been permitted to depose this declarant or otherwise interrogate these statements. On these bases, Defendants deny these allegations.
- 57. Defendants are without sufficient information to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations in Paragraph 57. Defendants admit that Plaintiffs have filed a declaration from Mr. White consistent with these statements, but Defendants have not been permitted to depose this declarant or otherwise interrogate these statements. On these bases, Defendants deny these allegations.
- 58. Paragraph 58 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no response is required. Moreover, Defendants are without sufficient information to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations in Paragraph 58. Defendants admit that Plaintiffs have filed a declaration from Mr. White consistent with these statements, but Defendants have not been permitted to depose this declarant or otherwise interrogate these statements. On these bases, Defendants deny these allegations.

- 59. Paragraph 59 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no response is required. Moreover, Defendants are without sufficient information to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations in Paragraph 59. Defendants admit that Plaintiffs have filed a declaration from Mr. White consistent with these statements, but Defendants have not been permitted to depose this declarant or otherwise interrogate these statements. On these bases, Defendants deny these allegations.
- 60. Paragraph 60 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no response is required. Paragraph 60 also quotes, cites to, and purports to paragraph Senate Bill 253. Senate Bill 253 speaks for itself and provides the best evidence of its contents. To the extent a further response is required, Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 60.
- 61. Paragraph 61 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no response is required. Paragraph 61 also quotes, cites to, and purports to paragraph Senate Bill 253. Senate Bill 253 speaks for itself and provides the best evidence of its contents. To the extent a further response is required, Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 61.
- 62. Paragraph 62 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no response is required. Paragraph 62 also quotes, cites to, and purports to paragraph Senate Bill 253. Senate Bill 253 speaks for itself and provides the best evidence of its contents. To the extent a further response is required, Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 62.
- 63. Paragraph 63 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no response is required. Paragraph 63 also quotes, cites to, and purports to paragraph Senate Bill 253. Senate Bill 253 speaks for itself and provides the best evidence of its contents. To the extent a further response is required, Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 63.

- 1 64. Paragraph 64 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no 2 response is required. Paragraph 64 also quotes, cites to, and purports to paraphrase 3 Wooley v. Maynard, 430 U.S. 705 (1977), Hurley v. Irish-Am. Gay, Lesbian & 4 Bisexual Grp. of Bos., 515 U.S. 557 (1995) and Janus v. Am. Fed'n of State, Cntv. 5 & Mun. Emps., Council 31, 138 S. Ct. 2448 (2018). These cases speak for 6 themselves and provide the best evidence of their contents. To the extent a further 7 response is required, Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 64. 8 65. Paragraph 65 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no 9 response is required. Paragraph 65 also quotes, cites to, and purports to paraphrase 10 Nat'l Inst. of Family & Life Advocates v. Becerra ("NIFLA"), 138 S. Ct. 2361 11 (2018), Janus v. Am. Fed'n of State, Cnty. & Mun. Emps., Council 31, 138 S. Ct. 12 2448 (2018) and *IMDB.com Inc. v. Becerra*, 962 F.3d 1111 (9th Cir. 2020). These 13 cases speak for themselves and provide the best evidence of their contents. To the 14 extent a further response is required, Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 15 65. 16 66. Paragraph 66 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no 17 response is required. Paragraph 66 also quotes, cites to, and purports to paraphrase 18 Nat'l Inst. of Family & Life Advocates v. Becerra ("NIFLA"), 138 S. Ct. 2361 (2018) and Janus v. Am. Fed'n of State, Cnty. & Mun. Emps., Council 31, 138 S. 19 20
 - Ct. 2448 (2018). These cases speak for themselves and provide the best evidence of their contents. To the extent a further response is required, Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 66.

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67. Paragraph 67 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no response is required. Paragraph 67 also quotes, cites to, and purports to paraphrase Janus v. Am. Fed'n of State, Cnty. & Mun. Emps., Council 31, 138 S. Ct. 2448 (2018) and Senate Bill 261. These documents speak for themselves and provide the best evidence of their contents. To the extent a further response is required, Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 67.

1 68. Paragraph 68 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no 2 response is required. Paragraph 68 also quotes, cites to, and purports to paraphrase 3 Nat'l Inst. of Family & Life Advocates v. Becerra ("NIFLA"), 138 S. Ct. 2361 4 (2018) and Senate Bills 253 and 261. These documents speak for themselves and 5 provide the best evidence of their contents. To the extent a further response is 6 required, Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 68. 7 69. Paragraph 69 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no response is required. Paragraph 69 also purports to describe Senate Bills 253 and 8 9 261. The Senate Bills speak for themselves and provide the best evidence of their 10 contents. Moreover, the allegations in the third, fourth, and fifth sentences of 11 Paragraph 69 consist of vague and ambiguous terms about which Defendants lack 12 sufficient information to respond. To the extent a further response is required, 13 Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 69.

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- 70. Paragraph 70 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no response is required. Paragraph 70 also quotes, cites to, and purports to paraphrase *Nat'l Inst. of Family & Life Advocates v. Becerra ("NIFLA")*, 138 S. Ct. 2361 (2018) and *Ariix, LLC v. NutriSearch Corp.*, 985 F.3d 1107 (9th Cir. 2021). These cases speak for themselves and provide the best evidence of their contents. To the extent a further response is required, Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 70.
- 71. Paragraph 71 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no response is required. To the extent a further response is required, Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 71.
- 72. Paragraph 72 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no response is required. Paragraph 72 also quotes, cites to, and purports to paraphrase *Nat'l Inst. of Family & Life Advocates v. Becerra ("NIFLA")*, 138 S. Ct. 2361 (2018). This case speaks for itself and provides the best evidence of its contents. To

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the extent a further response is required, Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 72. 73. Paragraph 73 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no response is required. To the extent a further response is required, Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 73. 74. Paragraph 74 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no response is required. Moreover, these allegations are contradicted by publicly available information, and Defendants deny Plaintiffs' allegations on this ground. Otherwise, the Senate Bills and legislative history speak for themselves and provide the best evidence of their contents. To the extent a further response is required, Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 74. 75. Paragraph 75 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no response is required. Paragraph 75 also quotes, cites to, and purports to paraphrase Senate Bills 253 and 261. These Senate Bills speak for themselves and provide the best evidence of their contents. To the extent a further response is required, Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 75. 76. Paragraph 76 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no response is required. Paragraph 76 also quotes, cites to, and purports to paraphrase McCullen v. Coakley, 573 U.S. 464 (2014) and Comment of the Williams Companies, Inc. SEC File No. S7-10-22 (June 17, 2022) http://tinyurl.com/y99amdcd. These documents speak for themselves and provide the best evidence of their contents. To the extent a further response is required, Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 76.

77. Paragraph 77 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no response is required. Moreover, Defendants are without sufficient information to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations in Paragraph 77. Defendants admit that Plaintiffs have filed declarations from Mr. Hawkins and Mr. White consistent with these statements, but Defendants have not been permitted to depose these

declarants or otherwise interrogate these statements. To the extent a further response is required, Defendants deny these allegations.

- 78. Paragraph 78 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no response is required. Paragraph 78 quotes, cites to, and purports to paraphrase *Nat'l Inst. of Family & Life Advocates v. Becerra ("NIFLA")*, 138 S. Ct. 2361 (2018). This case speaks for itself and provides the best evidence of its contents. To the extent a further response is required, Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 78.
- 79. Paragraph 79 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no response is required. Paragraph 79 also quotes, cites to, and purports to paraphrase *Nat'l Inst. of Family & Life Advocates v. Becerra ("NIFLA")*, 138 S. Ct. 2361 (2018), *Ibanez v. Fla. Dep't of Bus. & Prof'l Reg.*, 512 U.S. 136 (1994), and Senate Bills 253 and 261. These documents speak for themselves and provide the best evidence of their contents. To the extent a further response is required, Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 79.
- 80. Paragraph 80 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no response is required. Paragraph 80 also quotes, cites to, and purports to paraphrase Senate Bills 253 and 261. These Senate Bills speak for themselves and provide the best evidence of their contents. Moreover, these allegations are contradicted by publicly available information, and Defendants deny Plaintiffs' allegations on this ground. To the extent a further response is required, Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 80.
- 81. Paragraph 81 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no response is required. Paragraph 81 quotes, cites to, and purports to paraphrase *O'Brien v. Welty*, 818 F.3d 920 (9th Cir. 2016) and *FCC v. Fox Television Stations*, 567 U.S. 239 (2012). These cases speak for themselves and provide the best evidence of their contents. To the extent a further response is required, Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 81.

82. Paragraph 82 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no response is required. Paragraph 82 also quotes, cites to, and purports to paraphrase Senate Bills 261. The Senate Bill speaks for itself and provides the best evidence of its contents. To the extent a further response is required, Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 82. 83. Paragraph 83 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no response is required. Paragraph 83 also purports to paraphrase Senate Bills 261. The Senate Bill speaks for itself and provides the best evidence of its contents. To the extent a further response is required, Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 83. 84. Plaintiffs' Supremacy Clause and Extraterritoriality claims were dismissed (ECF No. 77 at 23-24), and Plaintiffs did not amend, so no response to Paragraph 84 is required. To the extent a response is required: Paragraph 84 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no response is required. Paragraph 84 also quotes, cites to, and purports to paraphrase Clean Air Act Amendments of 1970, Pub. L. No. 91-604, 84 Stat. 1676, Nat'l Pork Producers Council v. Ross, 598 U.S. 356 (2023) and Franchise Tax Bd. of Cal. v. Hyatt, 139 S. Ct. 1485 (2019). These documents speak for themselves and provide the best evidence of their contents. To the extent a further response is required, Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 84.

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85. Plaintiffs' Supremacy Clause and Extraterritoriality claims were dismissed (ECF No. 77 at 23-24), and Plaintiffs did not amend, so no response to Paragraph 85 is required. To the extent a response is required: Paragraph 85 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no response is required. Paragraph 85 also quotes, cites to, and purports to paraphrase *Haaland v. Brackeen*, 599 U.S. 255 (2023), *Gade v. Nat'l Solid Wastes Mgmt. Ass'n*, 505 U.S. 88 (1992) and *City of N.Y. v. Chevron Corp.*, 993 F.3d 81 (2d Cir. 2021). These cases speak

1 for themselves and provide the best evidence of their contents. To the extent a 2 further response is required, Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 85. 3 86. Plaintiffs' Supremacy Clause and Extraterritoriality claims were 4 dismissed (ECF No. 77 at 23-24), and Plaintiffs did not amend, so no response to 5 Paragraph 86 is required. To the extent a response is required: Paragraph 86 6 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no response is required. 7 Paragraph 86 also quotes, cites to, and purports to paraphrase City of N.Y. v. Chevron Corp., 993 F.3d 81(2d Cir. 2021). This case speaks for itself and provides 8 9 the best evidence of its contents. To the extent a further response is required, 10 Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 86. 11 87. Plaintiffs' Supremacy Clause and Extraterritoriality claims were 12 dismissed (ECF No. 77 at 23-24), and Plaintiffs did not amend, so no response to 13 Paragraph 87 is required. To the extent a response is required: Paragraph 87 14 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no response is required. 15 Paragraph 87 purports to describe Senate Bills 253 and 261. The Senate Bills speak 16 for themselves and provide the best evidence of their contents. To the extent a 17 further response is required, Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 87. 18 88. Plaintiffs' Supremacy Clause and Extraterritoriality claims were 19 dismissed (ECF No. 77 at 23-24), and Plaintiffs did not amend, so no response to 20 Paragraph 88 is required. To the extent a response is required: Paragraph 88 21 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no response is required. 22 Paragraph 88 also quotes, cites to, and purports to paraphrase *Students for Fair* 23 Admissions, Inc. v. President & Fellows of Harvard Coll., 600 U.S. 181 (2023). 24 This case speaks for itself and provides the best evidence of its contents. To the 25 extent a further response is required, Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 26 88. 27 89. Plaintiffs' Supremacy Clause and Extraterritoriality claims were

dismissed (ECF No. 77 at 23-24), and Plaintiffs did not amend, so no response to

1 Paragraph 89 is required. To the extent a response is required: Paragraph 89 2 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no response is required. 3 Paragraph 89 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no response is required. Paragraph 89 also quotes, cites to, and purports to paraphrase Senate Bills 4 5 253 and 261. These Senate Bills speak for themselves and provide the best evidence 6 of their contents. To the extent a further response is required, Defendants deny the 7 allegations in Paragraph 89. 8 90. Plaintiffs' Supremacy Clause and Extraterritoriality claims were 9 dismissed (ECF No. 77 at 23-24), and Plaintiffs did not amend, so no response to 10 Paragraph 90 is required. To the extent a response is required: Paragraph 90 11 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no response is required. 12 Paragraph 90 also quotes, cites to, and purports to paraphrase Remarks of Sen. 13 Wiener, Debate on S.B. 253, Sen. Floor Sess. (May 30, 2023) 14 http://tinyurl.com/225dekr5. This document speaks for itself and provides the best 15 evidence of its contents. Moreover, as to the first sentence of Paragraph 90, 16 Defendants are without sufficient information to form a belief as to the truth of 17 these allegations, and on that basis deny them. To the extent a further response is 18 required, Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 90. 19 91. Plaintiffs' Supremacy Clause and Extraterritoriality claims were 20 dismissed (ECF No. 77 at 23-24), and Plaintiffs did not amend, so no response to 21 Paragraph 91 is required. To the extent a response is required: Paragraph 91 22 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no response is required. To the extent a further response is required, Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 23 24 91. 25 FIRST CLAIM FOR RELIEF 26 92. Defendants incorporate by reference all preceding paragraphs. 27

- 93. Paragraph 93 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no response is required. To the extent a further response is required, Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 93.
- 94. Paragraph 94 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no response is required. To the extent a further response is required, Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 94.
- 95. Paragraph 95 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no response is required. Paragraph 95 also purports to describe Senate Bill 261. The Senate Bill speaks for itself and provides the best evidence of its contents. To the extent a further response is required, Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 95.
- 96. Paragraph 96 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no response is required. Paragraph 96 also purports to describe Senate Bill 253. The Senate Bill speaks for itself and provides the best evidence of its contents. To the extent a further response is required, Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 96.
- 97. Paragraph 97 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no response is required. Paragraph 97 also purports to describe Senate Bill 253. The Senate Bill speaks for itself and provides the best evidence of its contents. To the extent a further response is required, Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 97.
- 98. Paragraph 98 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no response is required. Paragraph 98 also purports to describe Senate Bill 253. The Senate Bill speaks for itself and provides the best evidence of its contents. To the extent a further response is required, Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 98.

99. Paragraph 99 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no response is required. To the extent a further response is required, Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 99.

SECOND CLAIM FOR RELIEF

- 100. Defendants incorporate by reference all preceding paragraphs.
- 101. Plaintiffs' Supremacy Clause claim was dismissed (ECF No. 77 at 23-24), and Plaintiffs did not amend, so no response to Paragraph 101 is required. In the event a response is required: Paragraph 101 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no response is required. To the extent a further response is required, Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 101.
- 102. Plaintiffs' Supremacy Clause claim was dismissed (ECF No. 77 at 23-24), and Plaintiffs did not amend, so no response to Paragraph 102 is required. In the event a response is required: Paragraph 102 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no response is required. To the extent a further response is required, Defendants admit that the laws are not limited to companies that are headquartered or incorporated in the State of California; Defendants deny all remaining allegations in Paragraph 102.
- 103. Plaintiffs' Supremacy Clause claim was dismissed (ECF No. 77 at 23-24), and Plaintiffs did not amend, so no response to Paragraph 103 is required. In the event a response is required: Paragraph 103 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no response is required. To the extent a further response is required, Defendants admit that the laws are not limited to reporting of emissions or risks from within the State; Defendants deny all remaining allegations in Paragraph 103.
- 104. Plaintiffs' Supremacy Clause claim was dismissed (ECF No. 77 at 23-24), and Plaintiffs did not amend, so no response to Paragraph 104 is required. In the event a response is required: Paragraph 104 consists of argument and legal

conclusions to which no response is required. To the extent a further response is required, Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 104.

105. Plaintiffs' Supremacy Clause claim was dismissed (ECF No. 77 at 23-24), and Plaintiffs did not amend, so no response to Paragraph 105 is required. In the event a response is required: Paragraph 105 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no response is required. To the extent a further response is required, Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 105.

106. Plaintiffs' Supremacy Clause claim was dismissed (ECF No. 77 at 23-24), and Plaintiffs did not amend, so no response to Paragraph 106 is required. In the event a response is required: Paragraph 106 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no response is required. To the extent a further response is required, Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 106.

THIRD CLAIM FOR RELIEF

- 107. Defendants incorporate by reference all preceding paragraphs.
- 108. Plaintiffs' Extraterritoriality claim was dismissed (ECF No. 77 at 23-24), and Plaintiffs did not amend, so no response to Paragraph 108 is required. In the event a response is required: Paragraph 108 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no response is required. To the extent a further response is required, Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 108.
- 109. Plaintiffs' Extraterritoriality claim was dismissed (ECF No. 77 at 23-24), and Plaintiffs did not amend, so no response to Paragraph 109 is required. In the event a response is required: Paragraph 109 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no response is required. Paragraph 109 also quotes, cites to, and purports to paraphrase Senate Bills 253 and 261, and *Nat'l Pork Producers Council v. Ross*, 598 U.S. 356 (2023). These documents speak for themselves and provide the best evidence of their contents. To the extent a further response is required, Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 109.

- 110. Plaintiffs' Extraterritoriality claim was dismissed (ECF No. 77 at 23-24), and Plaintiffs did not amend, so no response to Paragraph 110 is required. In the event a response is required: Paragraph 110 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no response is required. To the extent a further response is required, Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 110.
- 111. Plaintiffs' Extraterritoriality claim was dismissed (ECF No. 77 at 23-24), and Plaintiffs did not amend, so no response to Paragraph 111 is required. In the event a response is required: Paragraph 111 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no response is required. Paragraph 111 also purports to describe Senate Bills 253 and 261. The Senate Bills speak for themselves and provide the best evidence of their contents. To the extent a further response is required, Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 111.
- 112. Plaintiffs' Extraterritoriality claim was dismissed (ECF No. 77 at 23-24), and Plaintiffs did not amend, so no response to Paragraph 112 is required. In the event a response is required: Paragraph 112 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no response is required. To the extent a further response is required, Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 112.

FOURTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF

- 113. Defendants incorporate by reference all preceding paragraphs.
- 114. Paragraph 114 quotes, cites to, and purports to paraphrase 42 U.S.C. § 1983 and 42 U.S.C. § 1988. These statutes speak for themselves and provide the best evidence of their contents.
- 115. Paragraph 115 consists of argument and legal conclusions to which no response is required. Paragraph 115 purports to describe 42 U.S.C. § 1988 and "all other applicable statutes." These statutes speak for themselves and provide the best evidence of their contents. To the extent a further response is required, Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 115.

and conjunctively, are barred against one or more Defendants due to sovereign

Each of Plaintiffs' causes of action and pleas for relief, separately

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123.

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1	immunity, except in so far as the relief request is consistent with Ex parte Young,					
2	209 U.S. 123 (1908).					
3	Defendants reserve the right to amend this answer, as permitted by					
4	Fed. R. Civ. P. 15, and to assert additional affirmative defenses become apparent					
5	over the course of this action.					
6	PRAYER FOR RELIEF					
7	125. That the Court deny Plaintiffs' request for declaratory and					
8	injunctive relief;					
9	126. That the Court deny Plaintiffs' request for a preliminary injunction					
10	and decline to issue any provisional relief of any kind against Defendants;					
11	127. That the Court deny Plaintiffs' request for attorney fees and costs;					
12	128. That Plaintiffs take nothing by reason of their Complaint;					
13	129. That judgment be rendered in favor of Defendants;					
14	130. That D	efendants be awa	rded costs of suit incurred in defense of this			
15	action; and					
16	131. For such other relief as the Court deems just and proper.					
17						
18	Dated: March 17, 202	25	Respectfully submitted,			
19			ROB BONTA			
20			Attorney General of California MYUNG J. PARK Supervising Deputy Attorney General			
21						
22			/s/ Caitlan McLoon			
23			CAITLAN MCLOON Deputy Attorney General			
24			Deputy Attorney General Attorneys for Defendants Liane M. Randolph, Steven S. Cliff, and Robert			
25	S A 202//200502		A. Bonta			
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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Case Name:	v. Liane M. Randolph, et al.
Case No.:	2:24-cv-00801-ODW-PVCx

I hereby certify that on March 17, 2025, I electronically filed the following documents with the Clerk of the Court by using the CM/ECF system:

DEFENDANTS' ANSWER TO AMENDED COMPLAINT

I certify that **all** participants in the case are registered CM/ECF users and that service will be accomplished by the CM/ECF system.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California and the United States of America the foregoing is true and correct and that this declaration was executed on March 17, 2025, at Los Angeles, California.

Carol Chow	/s/ Carol Chow	
Declarant	Signature	

SA2024300503