

October 8, 2025

Megan Dahle State Capital Sacramento, CA 95814

SUBJECT: Support, SB-38, Megan Dahle

Dear Senator Megan Dahle,

Altria Group writes to you regarding our support for SB-38 an act to add the Agricultural Innovation Act of 2025 to the California Food and Agricultural Code, relating to grants for environmentally sustainable farming. Altria Group is focused on strengthening California's agricultural sector by investing in sustainable farming which aligns with our commitment to supporting agriculture initiatives and solutions that benefit both farmers and the environment. This bill encourages collaboration and research without imposing new regulations or costs on producers. Allowing Altria to support small and socially disadvantaged farmers, SB 38 contributes to a more resilient and inclusive agricultural economy.

Altria's partnerships with GAP Connections (GAPC), work on promoting Good Agricultural Practices(GAP) among growers nationwide. SB 38 aligns with these principles by investing in research, and voluntary programs that help farmers adopt sustainable practices and strengthen California's agricultural community. Altria participates in programs such as the Sustainable Tobacco Program (STP), working with suppliers to adopt responsible and transparent farming practices, improve environmental outcomes, and support the communities where they operate.

Altria's Contributing Together (ACT) program supports our position on SB 38 by reinforcing the importance of collaboration between businesses and communities to create positive social and environmental change. Through ACT, employees engage with diverse community partners to understand local challenges and promote sustainable solutions that align closely with the goals of the Agricultural Innovation Act. Like SB 38, ACT focuses on partnership, innovation, and shared responsibility in building stronger, more resilient communities. For this reason Altria Group supports SB-38.

Sincerely,

Altria Group jotero4@ucmerced.edu