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8 SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
9 COUNTY OF FRESNO

11 **GHOST GOLF, INC., DARYN COLEMAN,  
12 SOL Y LUNA MEXICAN CUISINE, and  
13 NIEVES RUBIO,**

14 Plaintiffs,

15 v.

16 **GAVIN NEWSOM, in his official capacity  
as Governor of California, XAVIER  
17 BECERRA, in his official capacity as  
Attorney General of California, SANDRA  
18 SHEWRY, in her official capacity as Acting  
Director of the California Department of  
19 Public Health, ERICA S. PAN, in her  
official capacity as Acting State Public  
20 Health Officer,**

21 Defendants.

Case No. 20CECG03170

**DEFENDANTS' REPLY IN SUPPORT  
OF MOTION FOR SUMMARY  
JUDGMENT**

Date: September 27, 2022  
Time: 3:30 p.m.  
Dept: 501  
Judge: The Hon. D. Tyler Tharpe  
Trial Date: None Set

Action Filed: October 26, 2020

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Gov. Code, § 6103.)**

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1 **INTRODUCTION**

2 Plaintiffs do not dispute that this case presents no triable dispute of material fact, and they  
3 cannot show that their claims have any merit as a matter of law. Indeed, Plaintiffs identify no  
4 valid grounds on which to distinguish their challenge to the Governor’s emergency powers from  
5 *Newsom v. Superior Court* (2021) 63 Cal.App.5th 1099 (“*Gallagher*”), which squarely rejected  
6 precisely the same statutory and non-delegation challenges to the Governor’s authority that  
7 Plaintiffs allege here. Furthermore, because *Gallagher* conclusively establishes that the Blueprint  
8 was validly issued under the authority of the Emergency Services Act, Plaintiffs’ challenge to  
9 CDPH’s independent authority to adopt the Blueprint poses no justiciable controversy. Plaintiffs  
10 seek to manufacture a justiciable controversy by arguing that CDPH theoretically could adopt an  
11 uncertain measure that affects them at a time when no emergency proclamation is in effect, but  
12 this case does not, *and never has*, presented such circumstances. Plaintiffs cannot create a  
13 justiciable controversy by hypothesizing a theoretical future dispute such as this. Regardless,  
14 their claims utterly lack merit. Plaintiffs’ claim that the Blueprint lacked statutory authorization  
15 ignores the plain language of the Emergency Services Act and the Health and Safety Code, both  
16 of which unambiguously authorized the Blueprint, and Plaintiffs’ non-delegation challenge is  
17 wholly unsupported and cannot succeed as a matter of law, as set forth below.

18 **ARGUMENT**

19 **I. PLAINTIFFS’ CHALLENGE TO THE GOVERNOR’S EMERGENCY POWERS FAILS.**

20 **A. Plaintiffs’ Claim that the Governor Lacked Statutory Authority to Adopt**  
21 **the Blueprint Fails.**

22 **1. *Gallagher* Forecloses Plaintiffs’ Statutory Challenge.**

23 Plaintiffs argue *Gallagher* is not binding because, they claim, it did not consider their “core  
24 arguments” about the scope of the Governor’s authority under the ESA. (P’s Opp. 5.)  
25 Specifically, they argue that their theory is different because they contend the term “police  
26 power” in Government Code section 8627 should be deemed to mean only “the power to *enforce*  
27 existing law” but “not the power to *make* new law.” (P’s Opp. 5-6, italics in original.) Based on  
28 this premise, they argue that section 8627 only authorizes the Governor to issue orders to enforce

1 the “preexisting” rulemaking authority of other agencies (and that no such preexisting authority  
2 authorized the Blueprint), but that it does not authorize the Governor to issue orders that “make  
3 law,” a claim they contend *Gallagher* did not consider. But *Gallagher* rejected that theory.

4 In *Gallagher*, the plaintiffs also claimed that the executive order was “null and void”  
5 because the ESA allegedly did not authorize it. (*Gallagher, supra*, 63 Cal.App.5th at p. 1106.)  
6 *Gallagher* rejected the claim because, it held, the ESA *does* grant the Governor authority to  
7 “make law.” Specifically, it ruled, “[t]he police power is the authority to *enact laws* to promote  
8 the public health, safety, morals and general welfare,” and the ESA’s grant of “police power” thus  
9 unambiguously grants the Governor quasi-legislative rulemaking authority—not merely authority  
10 to “enforce” other statutes. (*Id.* at p. 1113, italics added.) Therefore, *Gallagher* forecloses  
11 Plaintiffs’ theory that the ESA does not confer authority to issue orders that “make law.” In fact,  
12 Plaintiffs effectively concede that their theory is inconsistent with *Gallagher*. (See P’s Opp. 5.)<sup>1</sup>

13 Furthermore, Plaintiffs here, as in *Gallagher*, rely heavily on the canon of constitutional  
14 doubt and other canons of construction (see P’s Opp. 3-4), but as explained, *Gallagher* also  
15 forecloses those arguments. (Defs. Mtn. 15.) *Gallagher* explained that canons of construction  
16 apply only to resolve ambiguity in statutes, and, it held, section 8627’s grant of quasi-legislative  
17 authority (i.e., authority to “enact laws”) is unambiguous, and therefore “there was no ambiguity  
18 to resolve in section 8627” via the canons. (*Gallagher, supra*, 63 Cal.App.5th at p. 1112.)

19 For these reasons, Plaintiffs cannot distinguish their challenge from *Gallagher*.<sup>2</sup>

22 <sup>1</sup> Specifically, they assert “*Gallagher erroneously concluded* that there was no way to  
23 reasonably construe Section 8627” as conferring less than “the power to craft legislative rules  
24 without any basis in existing law.” (P’s Opp. 5, italics added.) Thus, they acknowledge  
25 *Gallagher* “concluded” section 8627 authorizes the Governor to “craft rules” not authorized by  
26 “existing law.” As such, their theory is in direct contravention of *Gallagher*. This Court cannot  
27 rule that *Gallagher*’s holding was “erroneous” as Plaintiffs request. (Defs.’ Mtn. 15; *infra*, p. 10.)

28 <sup>2</sup> Plaintiffs fail accurately to describe *Gallagher* in other respects. They assert that the  
issue in *Gallagher* was only whether the Governor could “issue an order conditionally suspending  
certain provisions of the Elections Code,” which they imply was authorized by section 8571. (P’s  
Opp. 5.) But the executive order at issue did not merely suspend statutory provisions—it also  
adopted new rules that temporarily replaced the suspended ones, an exercise of the Governor’s  
quasi-legislative authority to “enact laws.” (*Id.* at pp. 1106, 1112-1113.)

1                   **2. The ESA Unambiguously Authorized the Blueprint.**

2                   Plaintiffs’ statutory challenge to the Governor’s emergency powers would fail even absent  
3 *Gallagher*. (See Defs.’ Mtn. 16-18.) Plaintiffs’ arguments to the contrary lack merit.

4                   As explained, Plaintiffs argue that the ESA did not authorize the Blueprint because, they  
5 contend, the term “police power” in section 8627 means only authority to “enforce existing laws”  
6 but not to issue orders that “make law.” (P’s Opp. 5.) For this reason, they argue, section 8627  
7 only grants the Governor rulemaking authority “conferred by law to state agencies” under  
8 “preexisting” statutes. (P’s Opp. 4-6.) That, however, is not what the term “police power”  
9 means—as Plaintiffs themselves previously acknowledged.<sup>3</sup> Indeed, as *Gallagher* correctly held,  
10 the “police power” is “the authority to *enact laws* to promote the public health, safety, morals and  
11 general welfare” (*Cnty. Mem’l Hosp. v. Cty. of Ventura* (1996) 50 Cal.App.4th 199, 206, italics  
12 added), or to “impose reasonable regulations upon private property rights” for the public good.  
13 (*Birkenfeld v. City of Berkeley* (1976) 17 Cal.3d 129, 146; see also *Gallagher, supra*, 63  
14 Cal.App.5th at p. 1113.) Therefore, even if the term “police power” could be construed to *include*  
15 the power to “enforce” the law,<sup>4</sup> section 8627, by its plain terms, would not limit the Governor  
16 *just* to enforcing the law, since it grants the Governor “all” police power vested in the state in  
17 order to effectuate the purposes of the Act. (Gov. Code, § 8627.)

18                   Plaintiffs suggest that the phrase all police power vested in the state “by the Constitution  
19 and laws of the State of California” somehow limits the Governor to exercising rulemaking  
20 authority conferred by law to “state agencies.” (P’s Opp. 3-4.) Plaintiffs fail to explain why “all  
21 police power vested in the state” by the Constitution and laws of the state is limited to pre-  
22 existing powers of “state agencies,” and it plainly is not. (Cal. Const., Art. III, § 3 [“[t]he powers  
23 of state government are legislative, executive, and judicial”]; *id.*, Art. IV, § 1 [describing the  
24

25                   <sup>3</sup> See Plaintiffs’ MPA iso Motion for Summ. Judg. or, In the Alternative, Summ.  
26 Adjudication at 7 (arguing “[t]he police power” is “the Legislature’s power to make law,” and  
that “the police power entails **all** of the Legislature’s power,” emphasis in original).

27                   <sup>4</sup> Plaintiffs identify no authority supporting their claim that “police power” means the  
28 power to “enforce” the law. They cite *Nollan v. Cal. Coastal Comm’n* (1987) 483 U.S. 825 (P’s  
Opp. 5), but it held no such thing. It used the term to refer to arguments about a “legitimate state  
interests” for purpose of takings law, an irrelevant concept here. (*Id.* at pp. 835-836.)



1 legislative power vested in the Legislature].) Section 8627 expressly grants the Governor “all”  
2 police power “vested in the state” by the Constitution and laws of the State in order to effectuate  
3 the purposes of the Act, not just the power to execute prior statutes. (Gov. Code, § 8627.)

4 Plaintiffs’ theory is inconsistent with the express language of section 8627 in additional  
5 respects. Plaintiffs argue that section 8627 only authorizes the Governor to act within the  
6 “rulemaking authority conferred by law to *state agencies*.” (P’s Opp. 4, italics added.) But  
7 section 8627 does not say the Governor may exercise all “police power” delegated to the “state  
8 agencies”—it says the Governor has both complete authority over state agencies and the right to  
9 exercise “all police power vested in *the state* by the Constitution and laws of the State . . . .”  
10 (Gov. Code, § 8627, italics added.) The police power vested in “the State,” again, is not limited  
11 to previous statutory delegations to state agencies. (*Supra*, p. 8; Defs.’ Opp. to Pltfs.’ MSJ at 12.)

12 Plaintiffs also argue that the Attorney General’s formal 1977 opinion is not “binding,” and  
13 that it is not even persuasive because its analysis allegedly was “cursory.” (P’s Opp. 6-7.)  
14 Defendants did not argue that the opinion was “binding,” but rather explained that Attorney  
15 General opinions are entitled to “great weight” since courts presume that the Legislature is aware  
16 of them and would take corrective action if it disagreed. (Defs.’ Mtn. 17-18.) And the opinion’s  
17 conclusion was not “cursory,” but rather was a direct, reasoned answer to one of two questions  
18 formally presented. (60 Cal. Op. Att’y Gen. 99 (1977) 1977 WL 24861, at \*2-3 & fn. 5.)

19 Finally, Plaintiffs argue that the cramped construction they urge is necessary “to avoid  
20 surplusage and non-delegation concerns” (P’s Opp. 3, 4), but as explained, those canons are  
21 inapplicable here. (*Supra*, p. 7; see also Defs.’ Opp. to Pltfs.’ MSJ at 13-14.)

## 22 **B. Plaintiffs’ Non-Delegation Challenge to the ESA Fails.**

### 23 **1. *Gallagher* Forecloses Plaintiffs’ Non-Delegation Challenge.**

24 Plaintiffs’ non-delegation challenge to section 8627 cannot survive *Gallagher*’s express  
25 ruling that section 8627 is not an unconstitutional delegation of legislative authority.

26 Plaintiffs argue that *Gallagher* is not binding because the executive order in *Gallagher*  
27 allegedly did not concern “what acts or omissions . . . are unlawful.” (P’s Opp. 19.) Plaintiffs fail  
28 to explain the point, and the distinction they posit makes no sense. *Gallagher*, like this case,

1 concerned a binding executive order issued under the ESA that specified acts that were lawful or  
2 unlawful. (See *Gallagher, supra*, 63 Cal.App.5th at p. 1106.) Regardless, non-delegation  
3 analysis focuses on the purposes, standards, and safeguards of the challenged statute itself (the  
4 ESA), not particular executive orders or measures issued under it. (See Defs.’ Mtn. 20-24.)

5 Plaintiffs also argue that *Gallagher* did not consider the “fundamental policy” element, and  
6 that *Gallagher*’s holding that the ESA contains adequate safeguards is “non-binding” because it  
7 did not discuss every argument Plaintiffs make here. (P’s Opp. 19-20.) *Gallagher*, however,  
8 certainly considered the requirement that the Legislature establish the fundamental policy  
9 (*Gallagher, supra*, 63 Cal.App.5th at p. 1114-1116 [discussing the requirement]), and it squarely  
10 held that the ESA contains sufficient safeguards. (*Id.* at pp. 1116-1118.) Indeed, *Gallagher*  
11 expressly held that section 8627 “is not an unconstitutional delegation of legislative power.” (*Id.*  
12 at p. 1118.) That holding of course was the “the principle or rule which constitutes the basis of  
13 the decision,” and thus is “binding.” (*United Steelworkers of Am. v. Bd. of Educ.* (1984) 162  
14 Cal.App.3d 823, 834; *Bunch v. Coachella Valley Water Dist.* (1989) 214 Cal.App.3d 203, 212  
15 [statements of law “necessary to the decision” are binding].) As such, *Gallagher* is binding here.<sup>5</sup>

## 16 **2. Plaintiffs’ Non-Delegation Challenge Lacks Merit.**

17 While *Gallagher* is dispositive here, Plaintiffs’ non-delegation challenge to the ESA would  
18 lack merit even absent *Gallagher*. (See Defs.’ Mtn. 19-25.) Plaintiffs’ arguments to the contrary  
19 misstate the ESA’s purposes and terms and ignore the applicable California authority.

### 20 **a. The Legislature Established the Fundamental Policy.**

21 Plaintiffs contend that the Legislature failed to establish the ESA’s fundamental policy, but  
22 their argument misstates the ESA’s express purposes. They argue that the ESA’s purpose is just  
23 “a generalized purpose of protecting public health and safety.” (P’s Opp. 12.) That, however, is  
24 not the purpose, as Defendants explained. (See Defs.’ Mtn. 21; see also *Gallagher, supra*, 63  
25 Cal.App.5th at p. 1115-1116 [the purpose of the ESA is “to empower the Governor to deal with  
26 the exigencies of widely differing emergencies in California from wildfires to floods to a

27 <sup>5</sup> Plaintiffs also argue *Gallagher* did not “consider” two century-old cases (P’s Opp. 19),  
28 but it applied California’s settled standards for the doctrine as articulated by the California  
Supreme Court far more recently, and those decisions are irrelevant in any event. (*Infra*, p. 11.)

1 pandemic,” and “to provide a coordinated response to the emergency].) Plaintiffs simply ignore  
2 the Act’s actual purposes. Their straw-man argument should be ignored.

3 Plaintiffs also argue that the inaccurate purpose they posit would not pass muster under  
4 what they assert are the “seminal” non-delegation cases, *Hewitt v. Bd. of Med. Examiners of the*  
5 *State* (1906) 148 Cal. 590, and *In re Peppers* (1922) 189 Cal. 682. (See P’s Opp. 12-13.) Far  
6 from being the “seminal” non-delegation cases, however, those two opinions, which issued a half-  
7 century before the California Supreme Court’s modern non-delegation jurisprudence, did not  
8 address the non-delegation doctrine at all. Instead, they ruled that the statutes at issue were void  
9 for vagueness, an entirely different constitutional principle (due process) not at issue here. (See  
10 *People v. Duz-Mor Diagnostic Lab’y, Inc.* (1998) 68 Cal.App.4th 654, 670 [explaining that *In re*  
11 *Peppers* applied the void-for-vagueness doctrine, which “concerns due process”]; *In re Peppers*,  
12 *supra*, 189 Cal. at p. 688 [ruling a statute was “too vague, indefinite and uncertain to form the  
13 basis of a criminal proceeding”]; *Hewitt, supra*, 148 Cal. at p. 595 [similar].)<sup>6</sup>

14 Plaintiffs also misconstrue *Rodriguez v. Solis* and *Sacramentans for Fair Planning v.*  
15 *Sacramento*. (Defs.’ Mtn. 21-23.) Plaintiffs assert that in *Rodriguez*, there was “a legislative  
16 judgment prioritizing community aesthetics as a paramount value” (P’s Opp. 13), but that is  
17 wrong. Instead, *Rodriguez* focused on the requirement that signs be “[c]ompatible with their  
18 surroundings” simply because that was the provision that the plaintiff had challenged. (*Rodriguez*  
19 *v. Solis* (1991) 1 Cal.App.4th 495, 501.) It held that the statute’s overall purpose of promoting  
20 “public welfare” provided sufficient guidance in implementing that provision. (*Id.* at p. 510.)  
21 *Sacramentans for Fair Planning v. Sacramento* (2019) 37 Cal.App.5th 698, 717 was similar.

22 **b. The ESA Prescribes Adequate Standards.**

23 The Legislature also prescribed adequate standards consistent with the non-delegation

24 <sup>6</sup> *In re Peppers* further held that because the statute was void for vagueness, it could not  
25 validly delegate the task of defining the criminal offense. (*In re Peppers, supra*, 189 Cal. at p.  
26 688.) That ruling also has no relevance here, since Plaintiffs do not claim any statute is void for  
27 vagueness. Furthermore, the precise claim before the court in that case was that, “while the [Act]  
28 empowered the director of agriculture . . . ‘to define, promulgate and enforce such rules and  
regulations as may be deemed necessary to carry out the provisions of this act,’ *there was not*  
*enacted any provision declaring that a violation of such rules and regulations should be a crime,*”  
and, hence, “the applicant could not be successfully prosecuted. . . .” (*Id.* at p. 684, italics added.)  
In contrast, the ESA contains such a provision. (Gov. Code, § 8665.)

1 doctrine. (See Defs.’ Mtn. 21.) Plaintiffs again cannot establish otherwise. Plaintiffs once again  
2 rely primarily on *Hewitt v. Board of Medical Examiners of the State*, *supra*, and *In re Peppers*,  
3 *supra* (P’s Opp. 14-15), but as explained, those cases are irrelevant here. (*Supra*, p. 11.)

4 Plaintiffs also cite *People’s Federal Savings & Loan Association v. Franchise Tax Board*  
5 (1952) 110 Cal.App.2d 696 (P’s Opp. 15), but the Court of Appeal opinion in that case again  
6 issued long before the California Supreme Court’s modern non-delegation authority of *Kugler v.*  
7 *Yocum* and its progeny, and is readily distinguishable. In that case, a tax statute provided “[n]o  
8 guide or standard of any kind” to guide its implementation. (*Id.* at p. 700.) That is not true here,  
9 as explained. (Defs.’ Mtn. 21-25; see *Alexander v. State Pers. Bd.* (2000) 80 Cal.App.4th 526,  
10 538 [ruling *People’s Federal Savings* was inapplicable where, as here, the Legislature did not  
11 grant “uncontrolled and unguided” discretion, and where, as here, “there are safeguards,” which,  
12 under *Kugler v. Yocum*, “is often the key in determining whether a delegation is improper”].)

13 Plaintiffs also rely on an opinion of the Michigan Supreme Court, *In re Certified Questions*  
14 *From United States Dist. Ct. , W. Dist. of Michigan* (2020) 506 Mich. 332 (P’s Opp. 16), but that  
15 opinion construed the Michigan Constitution’s non-delegation doctrine, which the court found to  
16 be governed by standards that differ starkly from California’s well-settled standards. (Defs.’ Mtn.  
17 20-25.) Other state appellate courts that have addressed similar challenges—including  
18 California’s—have disagreed with the Michigan opinion.<sup>7</sup>

19 Finally, Plaintiffs argue the Legislature must provide “a guiding list of factors” (P’s Opp.  
20 16), but that is incorrect, as explained. (Defs.’ Mtn. 21-23; Defs.’ Opp. to P’s MSJ at 17-19.)

### 21 c. The ESA Prescribes Sufficient Safeguards.

22 Plaintiffs’ contention that the ESA lacks sufficient safeguards also is baseless. Plaintiffs  
23 argue that the ESA’s temporal restrictions are inadequate because they allegedly allow  
24 Defendants to terminate a state of emergency in their “subjective judgment,” whereas, Plaintiffs  
25 argue, the “adequate safeguards” test requires “objective restraints.” (P’s Opp. 17, 18.) Plaintiffs  
26 cite no authority that supports this proposition (*ibid.*), but regardless, the ESA does include

27 <sup>7</sup> See, e.g., *Gallagher*, *supra*, 63 Cal.App.5th at p. 1118; *Beshear v. Acree* (Ky. 2020) 615  
28 S.W.3d 780, 811-813; *Casey v. Lamont* (2021) 338 Conn. 479, 502-521; *Desrosiers v. Governor*  
(2020) 486 Mass. 369, 384; *Friends of Danny DeVito v. Wolf* (2020) 658 Pa. 165, 198.

1 objective standards and safeguards, as Defendants explained. (Defs.’ Mtn. 21-25.)

2 Plaintiffs also argue that the ESA’s procedural safeguards are inadequate because they do  
3 not “ensure opportunity for public input,” and that the Legislature’s ability to terminate the  
4 Governor’s emergency powers is not a “meaningful safeguard.” (P’s Opp. 18-19.) Plaintiffs  
5 again identify no authority that supports these assertions,<sup>8</sup> and they simply ignore the extensive  
6 California authority providing otherwise. (See Defs.’ Mtn. 23-24.)

7 **II. PLAINTIFFS’ CHALLENGE TO CDPH’S AUTHORITY FAILS.**

8 **A. The Court Need Not, and Should Not, Reach Plaintiffs’ Challenge to**  
9 **CDPH’s Authority in Light of *Gallagher*.**

10 Plaintiffs argue that the Court should address their challenge to CDPH’s authority despite  
11 *Gallagher*’s dispositive ruling foreclosing the relief they seek. (See Defs.’ Mtn. 15-16.) This,  
12 they argue, is because CDPH theoretically could impose a future measure without an emergency  
13 proclamation in effect. (P’s Opp. 10-11.) This case, however, does not present—and *never has*  
14 *presented*—any such circumstances. The speculative possibility that, in the future, CDPH might  
15 issue unspecified measures for unspecified reasons absent an emergency proclamation poses no  
16 justiciable controversy. As explained, courts do not decide such speculative and hypothetical  
17 disputes. (Defs.’ Mtn. 16; *Consumer Cause, Inc. v. Johnson & Johnson* (2005) 132 Cal.App.4th  
18 1175, 1186 [courts do not decide cases “based on hypothetical facts or speculative future  
19 events”].) Importantly, this is not a question of mootness, since this case *never has* presented  
20 such a dispute. (*Wilson & Wilson v. City Council of Redwood City* (2011) 191 Cal.App.4th 1559,  
21 1573 [a moot case is one in which the particular controversy once “did exist” but has “ceased to  
22 exist”].) For this reason, Plaintiffs’ reference to this Court’s mootness ruling—and the mootness  
23 exception for important issues of public interest that are likely to recur—are irrelevant. Plaintiffs  
24 do not allege that they are now, *or ever have been*, subject to an allegedly improper measure  
25 absent an emergency proclamation. This Court should decline Plaintiffs’ invitation to decide

26 <sup>8</sup> Plaintiffs cite the Washington case *Matter of Powell* (1979) 92 Wash.2d 882, but that  
27 case addressed wholly different and irrelevant circumstances, and it applied standards that differ  
28 from the California non-delegation standards that govern here. (*Id.* at p. 892.) Plaintiffs also cite  
the Wisconsin case *Fabick v. Evers* (2021) 396 Wis.2d 231, but it did not address the non-  
delegation doctrine at all, much less this particular element under California law.

1 their sweeping attack on CDPH’s powers based solely on speculative future events.

2 **B. Plaintiffs’ Challenge to CDPH’s Authority Lacks Merit.**

3 **1. CDPH’s Statutory Authority to Stem the Spread of Infectious Disease**  
4 **Independently Authorized the Blueprint.**

5 If the Court decides to reach Plaintiffs’ challenge to CDPH’s authority, the challenge fails.  
6 As explained, Health and Safety Code section 120140 authorizes CDPH to take such measures  
7 “as are necessary to ascertain the nature of the disease and prevent its spread,” and this authority  
8 unambiguously authorized the Blueprint. (Defs.’ Mtn. 18-19.) Plaintiffs do not dispute that the  
9 Blueprint was “necessary” to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and save lives, and they do not  
10 even attempt to explain how the text of section 120140 could exclude such a measure. (P’s Opp.  
11 8-9; see *Brasher’s Cascade Auto Auction v. Valley Auto Sales* (2004) 119 Cal.App.4th 1038,  
12 1051 [statutory construction “begins by scrutinizing the actual words of the statute”].)

13 Instead, ignoring California law, Plaintiffs rely on two federal cases. (P’s Opp. 8-9, citing  
14 *Tiger Lily, LLC v. U.S. Dep’t of Hous. & Urb. Dev.* (6th Cir. 2021) 5 F.4th 666, 671 and *Ala.*  
15 *Ass’n of Realtors v. Dep’t of Health & Hum. Servs.* (2021) 141 S. Ct. 2485.) But those cases  
16 addressed very different statutes and issues, and their reasoning is inapposite. Both cases  
17 involved challenges to the eviction moratorium issued by the United States Centers for Disease  
18 Control (CDC). This case, of course, does not concern either an eviction measure or the authority  
19 of CDC. And the reasoning of those cases does not apply here, since the statute at issue in those  
20 cases was very different than section 120140. For example, those opinions relied on the canon of  
21 *ejusdem generis*, but unlike the CDC statute, section 120140 does not use the formulation to  
22 which that canon applies—a list of specific items followed by a general reference using the term  
23 “other.”<sup>9</sup> Furthermore, those decisions emphasized that their reasoning was animated by

24 \_\_\_\_\_  
25 <sup>9</sup> See *Zumbrun L. Firm v. Cal. Legis.* (2008) 165 Cal.App.4th 1603, 1619 (explaining that  
26 this canon of construction “is typically applied to phrases that list several specific items, then  
27 refer to a general reference, *using the term ‘other,’*” italics added; *Sterling Park v. City of Palo*  
28 *Alto* (2013) 57 Cal.4th 1193, 1202 (this canon “implies the addition of *similar* after the word  
*other,*” italics in original). Section 120140 does not use this formulation. (See Defs.’ Mtn. 18.)  
Similarly, these decisions reasoned that the second sentence of the federal statute qualified the  
first for reasons that are wholly inapplicable here—unlike the federal statute, the second sentence  
of section 120140 does not purport to modify or limit the first sentence in any way.

1 federalism concerns that do not apply here. (*Tiger Lily, supra*, 5 F.4th at p. 671 [emphasizing that  
2 the construction they reached was necessary to avoid “alter[ing] the federal-state framework by  
3 permitting federal *encroachment upon a traditional state power*,” emphasis added]; *Ass’n of*  
4 *Realtors, supra*, 141 S. Ct. at p. 2489 [similar].) Here, of course, this reasoning cuts the other  
5 way, since protection of public health and safety is within the traditional police power of the  
6 states. (See, e.g., *Medtronic, Inc. v. Lohr* (1996) 518 U.S. 470, 475.)<sup>10</sup>

## 7 **2. Plaintiffs’ Non-Delegation Challenge Fails.**

8 Plaintiffs largely abandon their non-delegation challenge to section 120140, alluding to it  
9 only in passing. (P’s Opp. 12-19.) Plaintiffs’ fleeting references to the challenge simply ignore  
10 the purposes, standards, and safeguards of section 120140 that Defendants described. Plaintiffs  
11 argue that the fundamental policy of section 120140 is just a “general purpose” to “protect public  
12 health” (P’s Opp. 12), but Plaintiffs misstate the statute’s purpose, as Defendants explained.  
13 (Defs.’ Mtn. 25 [describing the purpose].) Similarly, Plaintiffs simply ignore the Act’s standards  
14 and safeguards that Defendants described. (Defs.’ Mtn. 25-26.) Indeed, Plaintiffs raise no new  
15 argument in support of their non-delegation challenge to section 120140 and instead simply lump  
16 section 120140 together with their non-delegation arguments about the ESA. (P’s Opp. 12-19.)  
17 Those arguments lack merit for the reasons set forth above. (*Supra*, pp. 9-13.)<sup>11</sup>

## 18 **CONCLUSION**

19 For the foregoing reasons, Defendants respectfully request that the Court grant their motion  
20 for summary judgment and enter judgment in Defendants’ favor.

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<sup>10</sup> Plaintiffs also briefly reference *West Virginia v. EPA* (2022) 142 S. Ct. 2587 (P’s Opp.  
24 9), but that case addressed statutory language under the federal Clean Air Act that bears no  
25 resemblance to the statutes here. Furthermore, California law has not adopted the principle of  
construction on which it relied, and the ESA would satisfy it in any event.

26 <sup>11</sup> In a footnote, Plaintiffs argue that oversight of CDPH by the Governor somehow is not  
27 relevant, although they cite no authority for this proposition. (P’s Opp. 17 fn. 9.) Oversight by  
28 another executive agency, however, can help guide implementation. (See, e.g., *Alexander v. State*  
*Pers. Bd., supra*, 80 Cal.App.4th at p. 538 [statute did not grant “uncontrolled and unguided  
discretion” because “the affected agency must agree,” among other reasons].) And Plaintiffs  
simply ignore the remaining safeguards that Defendants identified. (See Defs.’ Mtn. 26.)

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Dated: September 13, 2022

Respectfully Submitted,  
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PAUL STEIN  
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Deputy Attorney General  
*Attorneys for Defendants*



**DECLARATION OF SERVICE BY E-MAIL**

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Case No.: **20CECG03170**

I declare:

I am employed in the Office of the Attorney General, which is the office of a member of the California State Bar, at which member's direction this service is made. I am 18 years of age or older and not a party to this matter; my business address is: 455 Golden Gate Avenue, Suite 11000, San Francisco, CA 94102-7004.

On September 13, 2022, I served the attached

- **DEFENDANTS' REPLY IN SUPPORT OF MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT**

by transmitting a true copy via electronic mail, addressed as follows:

**Luke Wake**

**Daniel M. Ortner**

**Pacific Legal Foundation**

**Email: [lwake@pacificlegal.org](mailto:lwake@pacificlegal.org)**

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***Attorneys for Plaintiffs***

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 September 13, 2022, at San Francisco, California.

M. Mendiola

Declarant



Signature

## Kiren Mathews

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