2019 Legislative Letters of Support/Opposition

September 11, 2019 (updated)

To: Members of the California Assembly

Re: SB 1 (Atkins): Environmental, Public Health and Workers Defense Act

OPPOSE (As Amended September 10, 2019)

On behalf of the 88 signatories noted below, we regret to inform you of our continued opposition to SB 1 by Senate President Pro Tempore Toni Atkins. The bill fails to address a key concern identified in previous versions of the bill, therefore, we respectfully request your **NO** vote on the bill.

Although we are grateful for the deletion of the previous Section 6 (Water Code Section 13050) and the positive change to Section 3 [Fish and Game Code Section 2076.7 (c)] to permit application of best available science, retaining Section 2 (Fish and Game Code Section 2057) attempts to apply the California Endangered Species Act to the federal Central Valley Project. This is an unsettled area of law, and will likely lead to protracted and expensive litigation, instead of collaborative adaptive management and resources as contemplated in the Voluntary Agreements.

Inclusion of Section 2057 would do great injury to the efforts by a wide spectrum of water users to develop adaptive management practices for Delta water supply, water quality, and fish species commonly known as the Voluntary Agreements. These important negotiations span the Brown and Newsom Administrations and are the only real chance of avoiding a decade of non-productive litigation and for making real progress on species and habitat restoration in the Sacramento and San Joaquin River watersheds.

For these reasons, we must ask for your NO vote on the bill. If you have questions or wish additional information, please contact Kathy Viatella of The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California at (916) 650-2614.

Sincerely,

Jeff Kightlinger General Manager Metropolitan Water District of Southern California

Nina Jazmadarian
General Manager
Foothill Municipal Water
District

Bill Manis
President & CEO
San Gabriel
Valley Economic
Partnership

Anthony Duarte
CEO
Regional Chamber of
Commerce
San Gabriel Valley

Matthew Litchfield General Manager Three Valleys Municipal Water District	Jessica Duboff Vice President Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce	Theresa Harvey President & CEO North Orange County Chamber	Charley Wilson Executive Director & CEO Southern California Water Coalition
Alicia Berhow Senior Vice President of Government Affairs Orange County Business Council	Craig Miller General Manager Western Municipal Water District	Brian A. Dickinson General Manager Water Department City of Compton	Bruce Channing Executive Director Association of California Cities Orange County
Shivaji Deshmukh General Manager Inland Empire Utilities Agency	John Bosler General Manager Cucamonga Valley Water District	Ken Rausch Chief Executive Officer El Monte / South El Monte Chamber of Commerce	Leah Skinner Executive Director La Verne Chamber of Commerce
Joe Cina President/CEO Glendora Chamber of Commerce	Monica Farias Executive Director The Greater West Covina Business Association	David W. Pedersen, P.E. General Manager Las Virgenes Municipal Water District	Greg Morrison Government Relations Officer Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District
Ken Rausch Co-Chairman The San Gabriel Valley Legislative Coalition of Chambers	Mike Salazar Executive Director Bell Gardens Chamber of Commerce	Monique Manzanares President & CEO Pomona Chamber of Commerce	Michael W. Lewis Senior Vice President Construction Industry Coalition on Water Quality
Tracy Hernandez Founding CEO BizFed	Eileen Hupp Chair South Bay Association of Chambers of Commerce	Donna Duperron President and CEO Torrance Area Chamber of Commerce	Marsha Hansen CEO/President El Segundo Chamber of Commerce
Dominik Knoll President/CEO Redondo Beach Chamber of Commerce	Roxanne Holmes General Manager Crestline-Lake Arrowhead Water Agency	Erik Hitchman General Manager Walnut Valley Water District	Casey Hashimoto, P.E. General Manager Turlock Irrigation District

Scot Moody, SDA General Manager Stockton East Water District	Mauricio E. Guardadoa, Jr. General Manager United Water Conservation District	Steve Knell, P.E. General Manager Oakdale Irrigation District	Dave Eggerton Executive Director Association of California Water Agencies
Tom Birmingham General Manager Westlands Water District	Dennis D. LaMoreaux General Manager Palmdale Water District	Ray A Stokes Executive Director Central Coast Water Authority	Jim Barrett General Manager Coachella Valley Water District
Matthew Stone General Manager Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency	Jason Phillips Chief Executive Officer Friant Water Authority	Jennifer Pierre General Manager State Water Contractors, Inc.	Chris White Executive Director San Joaquin River Exchange Contractors Water Authority
Curtis Creel General Manager Kern County Water Agency	Scott Ferguson General Manager Modesto Irrigation District	Mark S. Krause General Manager/Chief Engineer Desert Water Agency	Robert Reeb Executive Director Valley Ag Water Coalition
Dwayne Chisam General Manager Antelope Valley East Kern Water Agency	Steve Haugen Watermaster Kings River Water Association	Federico Barajas Executive Director San Luis & Delta- Mendota Water Authority	Rick Gilmore General Manager/Secretary Byron Bethany Irrigation District
Douglas D. Headrick General Manager San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District	Tom Coleman General Manager Rowland Water District	John Kingsbury Executive Director Mountain Counties Water Association	Thomas Wong President San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District
Paul Peschel General Manager Kings River Conservation District	Norma Camacho General Manager Santa Clara Valley Water District	James Peifer Executive Director Regional Water Authority	Dale Melville Manager-Engineer Dudley Ridge Water District

David J. Guy President Northern California Water Association	Thomas D. McCarthy General Manager Mojave Water Agency	Paul Jones, II General Manager Eastern Municipal Water District	Gail Delihant Director of California Government Affairs Western Growers Association
Dan Dunmoyer President/CEO California Building Industry Association	Richard Haller General Manager Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority	Jeff Davis General Manager San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency	Noelle G. Cremers Senior Policy Advocate California Farm Bureau Federation
Luis Portillo Director of Public Policy Inland Empire Economic Partnership	Tricia Geringer Vice President of Government Affairs Agricultural Council of California	Michael R. Markus, P.E., D.WRE, BCEE, F.ASCE General Manager Orange County Water District	David Strecker President San Joaquin County Farm Bureau Federation
Michael Miiller Director of Government Relations California Association of Winegrape Growers	Jeffrey P. Sutton General Manager Tehama-Colusa Canal Authority	Eric Averett General Manager Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District	Ariana Joven Executive Director Kern County Farm Bureau
Nicholas Ortiz President & CEO Greater Bakersfield Chamber of Commerce	Richard A. Diamond General Manager North Kern Water Storage District	Jason Gianquinto General Manager Semitropic Water Storage District	Raul Barraza, Jr. General Manager Arvin Community Services District
Tony Stafford General Manager Camrosa Water District	Sheridan Nicholas Engineer-Manager Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa Water Storage District	Paul Helliker General Manager San Juan Water District	Phillip M. Miller, PE District Engineer Napa County Flood Control and Water Conservation District
Elaine Trevino President/Chief Executive Officer Almond Alliance of California	Bill Mattos President California Poultry Federation	David Stoldt General Manager Monterey Peninsula Water Management District	Dillon Gibbons Senior Legislative Representative California Special Districts Association

cc: Senate President Pro Tempore Toni Atkins Senator Anthony Portantino Senator Henry Stern

> Kip Lipper, Consultant, Office of the Senate President Pro Tempore Toni Atkins Alf Brandt, Assembly Policy Consultant, Office of Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon Marie Liu, Assembly Policy Consultant, Office of Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon

Ann O'Leary, Chief of Staff, Office of Governor Gavin Newsom
Ana J. Matosantos, Cabinet Secretary, Office of Governor Gavin Newsom
Christine Hironaka, Deputy Cabinet Secretary, Office of Governor Gavin Newsom
Anthony Williams, Legislative Secretary, Office of Governor Gavin Newsom
Rachel Wagoner, Deputy Legislative Secretary, Office of Governor Gavin Newsom
Bill Lyons, Policy Advisor, Office of Governor Gavin Newsom

Secretary Wade Crowfoot, California Natural Resources Agency Secretary Jared Blumenfeld, California Environmental Protection Agency

July 26, 2019

The Honorable Jared Huffman 1527 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

RE: SUPPORT FOR HR 2313

Dear Congressman Huffman:

The Alliance for Water Efficiency and the 72 undersigned water utilities, manufacturers, distributors, consumer groups, and water efficiency advocates strongly support H.R. 2313, the Water Conservation Tax Parity Act, and we applaud your leadership in sponsoring this important legislation.

Your bill would make clear that rebates provided by water utilities for water conservation and water runoff management improvements are not subject to federal income taxation. As the bill's title implies, it would create parity between water conservation rebates, which can be taxed, and energy conservation rebates, which Congress declared nontaxable in 1992.

Water utilities are offering rebates to incentivize the reduction of water use and to ease the strain on public infrastructure. These programs can provide significant water savings, which is a societal benefit, not a personal benefit to the consumer.

As these rebate programs have grown, however, so have the size of rebates and the number of homeowners receiving an Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Form 1099 reporting "income" of \$600 or more. The Treasury Department and the IRS have so far taken the position that these rebates are taxable as income to the recipient. At the same time, the Treasury Department has urged Congress in the past to amend the Internal Revenue Code to make water conservation rebates tax-exempt, just as energy efficiency rebates are.

Your bill would make that change and eliminate a major disincentive for millions of Americans willing to do their part in promoting water conservation efforts.

We stand ready to assist you in the passage of this bill.

Sincerely yours,

Alliance for Water

Efficiency Chicago, IL

Alameda County Water

District Fremont, CA American Rivers

Decatur, GA

Amy Vickers &

Associates, Inc. Amherst, MA

Arizona Municipal Water

Users Association

Phoenix, AZ

Arizona Nursery Association

Tempe, AZ

Association of Professional Landscape Designers - California Chapter

Sacramento, California

Aurora Water Aurora, CO

City of Bend Bend, OR

Big Bear Lake Department of Water Big Bear Lake, CA

Bottom Line Utility

Solutions, Inc. Laguna Hills, CA

C + C Seattle, WA

California Water Efficiency Partnership Sacramento, CA

Carpinteria Valley Water District
Carpinteria, CA

Town of Cary

Cary, NC

Cobb County Water SystemMarietta, GA

Codes and Standards International Belen, NM Contra Costa Water District Concord, CA

City of Durham Durham, NC

East Bay Municipal Utility District

Oakland, CA

Elevate Energy Chicago, IL

Exergy Systems, Inc. Irvine, CA

City of Flagstaff Flagstaff, AZ

Golden State Water Company San Dimas, CA

City of Goodyear Goodyear, AZ

Green Builder CoalitionGlen Carbon, IL

H2O Connected, LLC Coatesville, PA

Hawai'i Commission on Water Resource Management Honolulu, HI

Intellecy, Inc. San Diego, CA International Association of Plumbing & Mechanical Officials Dayton, NJ

Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District Jordan, UT

Kat with a K Landscaping Seattle, WA

Las Vegas Valley Water District Las Vegas, NV

LIXIL Corp/American Standard Brands Piscataway, NJ

Madison Water Utility Madison, WI

ManageWater Consulting, Inc. Redwood City, CA

City of Mesa Mesa, AZ

Metropolitan Water District of Southern California Los Angeles, CA

Miami Dade Water & Sewer Dept.
Miami, FL

Monterey Peninsula Water Management District Monterey, CA

Municipal Water District of Orange County Fountain Valley, CA

Myoma Dunes Mutual Water Company Bermuda Dunes, CA

Northern Water Berthoud, CO

Northwest EcoBuilding Guild Olympia, WA

Nth Solutions, LLC Exton, PA

City of Oceanside
Oceanside, CA

Plumbing Manufacturers International McLean, VA

Purlin, LLC Sarasota, FL

Rancho California Water District Temecula, CA

Regional Water Providers Consortium Portland, OR

City of Round Rock Round Rock, TX

Sacramento Suburban Water District Sacramento, CA San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District San Bernardino, CA

San Diego County Water Authority San Diego, CA

San Francisco Public Utilities Commission San Francisco, CA

Santa Margarita Water District Rancho Santa Margarita,

City of Santa Barbara Santa Barbara, CA

CA

City of Santa Cruz Water Department Santa Cruz, CA

Scottsdale Water Scottsdale, AZ

Southern Nevada Water Authority Las Vegas, NV

Stewardship Partners Seattle, WA

City of Thornton Thornton, CO

Tohono O'odham Nation Sells, AZ

TOTO USA, Inc. Morrow, GA **Tualatin Valley Water District**Beaverton, OR

Tucson Water Tucson, AZ

Valley Water San Jose, CA

WasteWater Education Traverse City, MI

Water – Use It Wisely Phoenix, AZ

Water Demand Management Boulder, CO

Water Wise Program, University of Arizona – Cochise County Cooperative Extension Sierra Vista, AZ

City of Westminster Westminster, CO

Whirlpool CorporationBenton Harbor, MI

From:

Roger Gwinn

To:

Dave Stoldt

Cc:

Stephanie Locke; Stephanie Missert

Subject:

Re: AWE"s letter of support for tax exempt water rebates

Date:

Thursday, August 1, 2019 11:35:38 AM

Attachments:

image001.png

Absolutely. Will do.

Sent from my iPhone Roger Gwinn The Ferguson Group

On Aug 1, 2019, at 1:57 PM, Dave Stoldt dstoldt@mpwmd.net> wrote:

Roger,

Would you please ensure that Feinstein and Harris office's are aware of this?

Dave

Begin forwarded message:

From: Dave Stoldt < dstoldt@mpwmd.net >

Subject: Fwd: AWE's letter of support for tax exempt water

rebates

Date: August 1, 2019 at 11:05:35 AM PDT

To: Lee Kathleen < Kathleen Lee@mail.house.gov>

Hi Kathleen,

Please ensure Jimmy is aware of this important issue. Thanks.

Dave

Begin forwarded message:

From: Liam McCarthy < Liam@a4we.org>

Sent: Thursday, August 1, 2019 7:35 AM

To: Liam McCarthy < Liam@a4we.org>

Subject: AWE's letter of support for tax exempt water

rebates

Hello,

Thank you again for signing on to our letter of support for

Tax Exempt Water Conservation rebates! See attached for the final letter that we sent to Congressional Representatives.

Stay up to date with all the news related to this issue, and other activities at AWE, here:

http://www.allianceforwaterefficiency.org/news/default.asp

X

Best, Liam and the AWE team

Liam R. McCarthy

Administrative and Outreach Coordinator Alliance for Water Efficiency 33 N. LaSalle St., Ste. 2275 Chicago, Illinois 60602 773-360-5100

<image001.png>

<V2 2019-07-26 AWE Letter Supporting HR 2313.pdf>

From:

Lee, Kathleen

To:

Dave Stoldt

Subject:

RE: AWE"s letter of support for tax exempt water rebates

Date:

Thursday, August 1, 2019 11:31:34 AM

Attachments:

image001.png

Dave,

Thank you for sharing this letter and I will be sure to share it with Mark Dennin, who is our legislative assistant for Ways and Means and tax issues.

Thank you, Kathleen Lee

From: Dave Stoldt <dstoldt@mpwmd.net> Sent: Thursday, August 1, 2019 10:56 AM

To: Lee, Kathleen < Kathleen.Lee@mail.house.gov>

Subject: Fwd: AWE's letter of support for tax exempt water rebates

Hi Kathleen,

Please ensure Jimmy is aware of this important issue. Thanks.

Dave

Begin forwarded message:

From: Liam McCarthy < Liam@a4we.org>
Sent: Thursday, August 1, 2019 7:35 AM
To: Liam McCarthy < Liam@a4we.org>

Subject: AWE's letter of support for tax exempt water rebates

Hello,

Thank you again for signing on to our letter of support for Tax Exempt Water Conservation rebates! See attached for the final letter that we sent to Congressional Representatives.

Stay up to date with all the news related to this issue, and other activities at AWE, here: http://www.allianceforwaterefficiency.org/news/default.aspx

Best,

Liam and the AWE team

Liam R. McCarthy

Administrative and Outreach Coordinator



June 10, 2019

The Honorable Lisa Murkowski Chairman Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee 304 Dirksen Senate Building Washington, DC 20510 The Honorable Joe Manchin Ranking Member Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee 304 Dirksen Senate Building Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Murkowski and Ranking Member Manchin:

The Monterey Peninsula Water Management District urges your support for the Drought Resiliency and Water Supply Infrastructure Act, which includes a 5-year, \$100 million reauthorization of the Bureau of Reclamation's Title XVI Water Reclamation and Reuse competitive grant program, originally authorized in the 2016 Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (WIIN) Act (Title XVI-WIIN). In addition to the key Title XVI-WIIN Competitive Grant Program, the legislation includes \$60 million for desalination, additional funding for surface and groundwater storage, and a new low-interest loan program for the financing of a range of water infrastructure projects.

We greatly appreciate the bipartisan nature of this bill and hope to see the bill amended to further increase the authorization level for the Title XVI-WIIN program. Title XVI is the only federal program focused on funding water recycling projects in the western states, yet with enactment of the FY 2019 Energy and Water Appropriations bill, the \$50 million authorization for Title XVI-WIIN has been reached. Therefore, it is critical to reauthorize Title XVI-WIIN in support of continued development of water reuse in the West.

The 2016 WIIN Act created a mechanism to continue support for Western water reuse projects by establishing a competitive grant program within Title XVI, enabling new projects to be eligible for federal assistance. There are currently 55 Title XVI-WIIN eligible projects awaiting assistance, with a total of more than \$550 million in eligible federal cost-share, this list will only grow as more projects become eligible. The need is clearly there as demonstrated by the range of communities who have applied for and are awaiting funding to drought-proof their future.

A clean and reliable water supply is the foundation of a community's health, economy, and sustainability. We appreciate the authors for their vision, breadth, and bipartisan efforts in addressing one of our greatest challenges.

Sincerely,



June 4, 2019

The Honorable Hannah-Beth Jackson Chair, Senate Judiciary Committee State Capitol Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Assembly Bill 1184 (Gloria) – Oppose [As Amended May 16, 2019]

Dear Senator Jackson:

The Monterey Peninsula Water Management District is respectfully opposed to Assembly Bill 1184, which will require all public agencies to maintain all transmitted emails related to agency business for at least two years.

To be very clear, this is not a transparency bill, it is a data storage bill. The public will have no greater or less access to public records under AB 1184. This bill creates no new disclosures or exemptions of records. This bill only mandates that public agencies retain all emails related to agency business for two years and attempts to avoid the constitutionally required mandate subvention process by placing the data retention policy in the California Public Records Act (CPRA).

While this measure appears intended to improve public access to government records, in practice it will merely increase the burdens for both public agencies and CPRA requesters. The vast majority of emails consist of autoreplies, spam, and insignificant routine communications of minimal public interest. As the bulk of these emails increases, the burden to search through them and locate responsive records in the event of a CPRA request rises accordingly. Indiscriminately mandating that emails be retained will thus make CPRA requests more expensive, perversely impeding public access. Moreover, for those costs that cannot be passed on to the requester, the public agency has no source for reimbursement, and must divert funds from other public programs. Compelling public agencies to retain masses of routine emails - which neither the sender nor recipient otherwise thought important enough to save - imposes significant burdens on all concerned for minimal public benefit.

Additionally, Article XIII B, Section 6 states that "whenever the Legislature or any state agency mandates a new program or higher level of service on any local government, the state shall provide a subvention of funds to reimburse that local government..." There are a small number of constitutional exceptions to that rule, one of which are costs related to the CPRA. AB 1184 attempts to exploit that exception by placing the email retention requirement in the CPRA. Public agencies have numerous records retention requirements in law, however, those requirements are not contained in the CPRA, and expansion of those requirements would clearly trigger state subvention. AB 1184 purposefully endeavors to create an unfunded mandate on local agencies by placing this major new retention requirement into the CPRA, specifically to avoid reimbursing local agencies for a new program or higher level of service.

For these reasons, MPWMD opposes AB 1184.

Sincerely,



June 4, 2019

The Honorable Mark Stone California State Assemblymember State Capitol, Room 3146 Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: Safe Drinking Water Plan

Dear Assemblymember Stone:

The Monterey Peninsula Water Management District asks you to support the Senate's Safe Drinking Water Plan because it would provide a durable funding solution needed without a water tax. The elements of the plan are:

- 1. A \$150 million per year continuous appropriation from the General Fund to the Safe and Affordable Drinking Water Fund;
- 2. SB 200 (Monning), which would create the Safe and Affordable Drinking Water Fund and provide the requirements for this funding program (e.g., the scope of eligible applicants, how the money could be spent, etc.); and
- 3. SB 414 (Caballero), which is co-sponsored by Eastern Municipal Water District and the California Municipal Utilities Association, would provide for the creation of small system water authorities. This bill would help the situation where small failing public water systems do not have the economies of scale to be sustainable.

These have the makings of a strong foundation to address safe and affordable drinking water throughout California.

On behalf of the jurisdictions within the Monterey Peninsula, we appreciate the attention you personally give to us and your work for the good people of the Monterey Peninsula.

Sincerely yours,



June 4, 2019

The Honorable William Monning California State Senator State Capitol, Room 4040 Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: Safe Drinking Water Plan

Dear Senator Monning:

The Monterey Peninsula Water Management District asks you to support the Senate's Safe Drinking Water Plan because it would provide a durable funding solution needed without a water tax. The elements of the plan are:

- 1. A \$150 million per year continuous appropriation from the General Fund to the Safe and Affordable Drinking Water Fund;
- 2. SB 200 (Monning), which would create the Safe and Affordable Drinking Water Fund and provide the requirements for this funding program (e.g., the scope of eligible applicants, how the money could be spent, etc.); and
- 3. SB 414 (Caballero), which is co-sponsored by Eastern Municipal Water District and the California Municipal Utilities Association, would provide for the creation of small system water authorities. This bill would help the situation where small failing public water systems do not have the economies of scale to be sustainable.

These have the makings of a strong foundation to address safe and affordable drinking water throughout California.

On behalf of the jurisdictions within the Monterey Peninsula, we appreciate the attention you personally give to us and your work for the good people of the Monterey Peninsula.

Sincerely yours,

April 22, 2019

The Honorable Betty McCollum, Chairwoman House Committee on Appropriations Subcommittee on Interior, Environment and Agencies Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Lisa Murkowski, Chairwoman Senate Committee on Appropriations Interior, Environment and Agencies Washington, DC 20510 The Honorable David Joyce, Ranking Member House Committee on Appropriations Subcommittee on Interior, Environment and Related Related Agencies Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Tom Udall, Ranking Member Senate Committee on Appropriations Subcommittee on Subcommittee on Interior, Environment and Related Related Agencies Washington, DC 20510

RE: SUPPORT FOR WATERSENSE® IN FISCAL YEAR 2020

Dear Chairwoman McCollum, Ranking Member Joyce, Chairwoman Murkowski, and Ranking Member Udall:

The 126 undersigned water utilities, manufacturers, distributors, consumer groups, and water efficiency advocates write to express our strong support for the WaterSense program at the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Since its inception in 2006, this voluntary public/private partnership has helped Americans save more than 3 trillion gallons of water and more than \$65 billion in water and energy bills. Additionally, the use of WaterSense labeled products has saved more than 400 billion kilowatt-hours of electricity.

Congress recognized the success and importance of WaterSense this past December by authorizing the program as part of America's Water Infrastructure and Improvement Act. That bill, signed into law by President Trump, gave WaterSense statutory status for the first time.

Yet, President Trump's proposed FY 2020 budget proposes elimination of the WaterSense program. We urge you to reject the administration's proposal and approve funding for WaterSense in FY 2020 at the current level of \$3.1 million or higher.

WaterSense works with over 2,000 business and organizational partners, with nearly 28,000 water-efficient products carrying the WaterSense label. Public and private utilities in all 50 states tailor successful water conservation programs around consumer use of WaterSense labeled products. And because of the nexus between water and energy use, the billions of gallons of water saved by WaterSense result in billions of kilowatt hours of energy that are not used to heat, pump and distribute water.

For all of these reasons, we believe that the WaterSense program is deserving of your support.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

The following 126 national, regional and local organizations:

Alliance for Water Efficiency Chicago, IL **Alameda County Water District** Fremont, CA

American Rivers
Decatur, GA

American Water Works Association

Denver, CO

Amy Vickers & Associates, Inc.

Amherst, MA

Apache Junction Water Utilities

Apache Junction, AZ

Arizona Municipal Water Users

Association

Phoenix, AZ

Arizona Nursery Association

Tempe, AZ

Athens-Clarke County Public

Utilities Department

Athens, GA

City of Austin

Austin, TX

City of Bellingham

Bellingham, WA

City of Bend

Bend, OR

Bernalillo County Public Works

Albuquerque, NM

City of Big Bear Lake Department

of Water and Power

Big Bear Lake, CA

Broward County Environmental Planning & Community Resilience

Division

Fort Lauderdale, FL

City of Buckeye

Buckeye, AZ

Business for Water Stewardship

Portland, OR

C+C

Seattle, WA

Cahaba River Society

Birmingham, AL

California Water Efficiency

Partnership

Sacramento, CA

California Water Services Company

Torrance, CA

Carpinteria Valley Water District

Carpinteria, CA

Cavanaugh

Winston Salem, NC

Center for Water-Energy Efficiency,

University of California, Davis

Davis, CA

Center for Water Efficient

Landscaping, Utah State University

Logan, UT

Cobb County Water System

Marietta, GA

Codes and Standards International

Belen, NM

Colorado WaterWise

Denver, CO

Connecticut Water

Clinton, CT

Contra Costa Water District

Concord, CA

Cool Choices

Madison, WI

Denver Botanic Gardens

Denver, CO

City of Durham

Durham, NC

East Bay Municipal Utility District

Oakland, CA

Elevate Energy

Chicago, IL

Ewing Irrigation & Landscape Supply

Phoenix, AZ

Exergy Systems, Inc.

San Jose, CA

City of Flagstaff

Flagstaff, AZ

Flo Technologies, Inc.

Culver City, CA

Foothill Municipal Water District

La Cañada Flintridge, CA

Global Water Policy Project

Los Lunas, NM

Global Water Works

Libertyville, IL

Golden State Water Company

San Dimas, CA

City of Goodyear

Goodyear, AZ

Green Builder Coalition

Glen Carbon, IL

Greywater Action

Berkeley, CA

Hawaii Commission on Water Resource

Management

Honolulu, HI

Hawaii First Water, LLC

Kailua Kona, HI

City of Hays

Hays, KS

Helix Water District

La Mesa, CA

Huron River Watershed Council

Ann Arbor, MI

Imagine H2O

San Francisco, CA

Intellecy Inc.

San Diego, CA

International Association of Plumbing

and Mechanical Officials

Ontario, CA

International Code Council

Washington, DC

Irrigation Association

Fairfax, VA

Jordan Valley Water Conservancy

District

West Jordan, UT

Kohler Co.

Kohler, WI

Lane Community College

Eugene, OR

LIXIL Corp/American Standard Brands

Piscataway, NJ

Maddaus Water Management

Sacramento, CA

Madison Water Utility

Madison, WI

ManageWater Consulting, Inc.

Redwood City, CA

Marin MWD

Corte Madera, CA

Massachusetts Water Works

Association

Acton, MA

Maureen Erbeznik & Associates

Los Angeles, CA

City of Mesa

Mesa, AZ

Metropolitan North Georgia Water

Planning District

Atlanta, GA

Metropolitan Water District of

Southern California

Los Angeles, CA

Miami-Dade Water and Sewer

Department

Miami, FL

Monterey Peninsula Water

Management District

Monterey, CA

Municipal Water District of Orange

County

Fountain Valley, CA

Myoma Dunes Water Company

Bermuda Dunes, CA

National Wildlife Federation

Washington, DC

Northern Arizona Municipal Water

Users Association

Scottsdale, AZ

Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District

Berthoud, CO

Nth Solutions LLC

Exton, PA

O'Cain Consulting, Inc.

Santa Monica, CA

City of Oceanside

Oceanside, CA

Olivenhain Municipal Water

District

Encinitas, CA

City of Peoria

Peoria, AZ

City of Phoenix,

Phoenix, AZ

Plumbing Manufacturers International

Tysons Corner, VA

City of Portsmouth

Portsmouth, NH

Purlin, LLC

Sarasota, FL

Rain Bird Corporation

Tucson, AZ

Ramona's Plumber

Ramona, CA

Rancho California Water District

Temecula, CA

Regional Water Authority

Citrus Heights, CA

Regional Water Providers Consortium

Portland, OR

Rogue Water, LLC

Fort Worth, TX

City of Round Rock

Round Rock, TX

City of Sacramento

Sacramento, CA

Sacramento Suburban Water District

Sacramento, CA

San Antonio Water System

San Antonio, TX

San Lorenzo Valley Water District

Boulder Creek, CA

City of San Marcos

San Marcos, TX

City of Santa Barbara

Santa Barbara, CA

City of Santa Cruz

Santa Cruz, CA

City of Santa Monica

Santa Monica, CA

Scotts Miracle-Gro

Marysville, OH

Scottsdale Water

Scottsdale, AZ

Seelig and Associates

Livermore, CA

San Francisco Public Utilities

Commission

San Francisco, CA

Southern Nevada Water Authority

Las Vegas, NV

Southern Oregon Landscape

Association

Medford, OR

STEMhero

Albany, OR

Sustainable Waters LLC

Crozet, VA

T&S Brass and Bronze Works, Inc.

Travelers Rest, SC

Tacoma Water

Tacoma, WA

Texas Water Foundation

Austin, TX

The Meadows Center for Water

and the Environment

San Marcos, TX

Tohono O'odham Nation

Sells, AZ

TOTO USA, Inc.

Ontario, CA

Tualatin Valley Water District

Beaverton, OR

Tucson Water

Tucson, AZ

Turfgrass Water Conservation

Alliance

Albany, OR

U.S. Green Building Council

Washington, DC

Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal

Water District

Monrovia, CA

Wastewater Education

Traverse City, MI

Water Demand Management

Boulder, CO

Water Supply Citizens Advisory

Committee

Belchertown, MA

Water – Use it Wisely

Phoenix, AZ

Waterless Co.

Vista, CA

WaterNow Alliance

San Francisco, CA

City of Westminster

Westminster, CO



March 13, 2019

Assemblymember Mark Stone State Capitol Room 3146 Sacramento, CA 95814-4900

Subject: SB 669 (Caballero) Safe Drinking Water Trust - SUPPORT

Dear Mark,

The Monterey Peninsula Water Management District supports SB 669 which would establish the Safe Drinking Water Trust, and is supported by the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) and the California Municipal Utilities Association (CMUA). It will be heard in the Senate Environmental Quality Committee this year.

The primary challenge in at-risk water systems is that O&M costs generally cannot be financed with existing federal and state safe drinking water funding sources, hence a financial solution is needed for O&M and consolidation costs that can complement existing available funding sources for capital costs. The Safe Drinking Water Trust proposed in SB 669 would provide a durable funding source to fill that gap.

It is not in the public interest to tax a resource that is essential to life, the alternative to the Trust proposed by others. Further, it would be highly inefficient to have over 3,000 local water agencies become tax collectors for the state because the resulting combined local administrative costs would exceed the combined state tax revenue collected from the local water bills. It would make water less affordable.

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Best regards,

David J. Stoldt General Manager



March 13, 2019

Senator Benjamin Allen, Chair Senate Environmental Quality Committee State Capitol Room 4076 Sacramento, CA 95814-4900

Subject: SB 669 (Caballero) Safe Drinking Water Trust - SUPPORT

Dear Senator Allen

The Monterey Peninsula Water Management District supports SB 669 which would establish the Safe Drinking Water Trust, and is supported by the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) and the California Municipal Utilities Association (CMUA).

The primary challenge in at-risk water systems is that O&M costs generally cannot be financed with existing federal and state safe drinking water funding sources, hence a financial solution is needed for O&M and consolidation costs that can complement existing available funding sources for capital costs. The Safe Drinking Water Trust proposed in SB 669 would provide a durable funding source to fill that gap.

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David J. Stoldt General Manager



March 13, 2019

Senator Anna M. Caballero State Capitol Room 5052 Sacramento, CA 95814-4900

Subject: SB 669 (Caballero) Safe Drinking Water Trust - SUPPORT

Dear Senator Caballero

The Monterey Peninsula Water Management District supports SB 669 which would establish the Safe Drinking Water Trust, and is supported by the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) and the California Municipal Utilities Association (CMUA).

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Best regards,



March 13, 2019

Senator Jerry Hill Senate Environmental Quality Committee State Capitol Room 5035 Sacramento, CA 95814-4900

Subject: SB 669 (Caballero) Safe Drinking Water Trust - SUPPORT

Dear Senator Hill

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Best regards,

David J. Stoldt General Manager



March 13, 2019

Senator Patricia C. Bates, Vice Chair Senate Environmental Quality Committee State Capitol Room 3048 Sacramento, CA 95814-4900

Subject: SB 669 (Caballero) Safe Drinking Water Trust - SUPPORT

Dear Senator Bates

The Monterey Peninsula Water Management District supports SB 669 which would establish the Safe Drinking Water Trust, and is supported by the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) and the California Municipal Utilities Association (CMUA).

The primary challenge in at-risk water systems is that O&M costs generally cannot be financed with existing federal and state safe drinking water funding sources, hence a financial solution is needed for O&M and consolidation costs that can complement existing available funding sources for capital costs. The Safe Drinking Water Trust proposed in SB 669 would provide a durable funding source to fill that gap.

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Best regards,

David J. Stoldt General Manager



March 13, 2019

Senator Jeff Stone Senate Environmental Quality Committee State Capitol Room 4082 Sacramento, CA 95814-4900

Subject: SB 669 (Caballero) Safe Drinking Water Trust - SUPPORT

Dear Senator Stone

The Monterey Peninsula Water Management District supports SB 669 which would establish the Safe Drinking Water Trust, and is supported by the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) and the California Municipal Utilities Association (CMUA).

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Best regards,

David J. Stoldt General Manager



March 13, 2019

Senator Nancy Skinner
Senate Environmental Quality Committee
State Capitol
Room 5094
Sacramento, CA 95814-4900

Subject: SB 669 (Caballero) Safe Drinking Water Trust - SUPPORT

Dear Senator Skinner

The Monterey Peninsula Water Management District supports SB 669 which would establish the Safe Drinking Water Trust, and is supported by the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) and the California Municipal Utilities Association (CMUA).

The primary challenge in at-risk water systems is that O&M costs generally cannot be financed with existing federal and state safe drinking water funding sources, hence a financial solution is needed for O&M and consolidation costs that can complement existing available funding sources for capital costs. The Safe Drinking Water Trust proposed in SB 669 would provide a durable funding source to fill that gap.

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Best regards,

David J. Stoldt General Manager



March 13, 2019

Senator Bob Wieckowski Senate Environmental Quality Committee State Capitol Room 4085 Sacramento, CA 95814-4900

Subject: SB 669 (Caballero) Safe Drinking Water Trust - SUPPORT

Dear Senator Wieckowski

The Monterey Peninsula Water Management District supports SB 669 which would establish the Safe Drinking Water Trust, and is supported by the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) and the California Municipal Utilities Association (CMUA).

The primary challenge in at-risk water systems is that O&M costs generally cannot be financed with existing federal and state safe drinking water funding sources, hence a financial solution is needed for O&M and consolidation costs that can complement existing available funding sources for capital costs. The Safe Drinking Water Trust proposed in SB 669 would provide a durable funding source to fill that gap.

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Best regards,

David J. Stoldt General Manager



March 13, 2019

Senator Henry Stern
Senate Environmental Quality Committee
State Capitol
Room 5080
Sacramento, CA 95814-4900

Subject: SB 669 (Caballero) Safe Drinking Water Trust - SUPPORT

Dear Senator Stern

The Monterey Peninsula Water Management District supports SB 669 which would establish the Safe Drinking Water Trust, and is supported by the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) and the California Municipal Utilities Association (CMUA).

The primary challenge in at-risk water systems is that O&M costs generally cannot be financed with existing federal and state safe drinking water funding sources, hence a financial solution is needed for O&M and consolidation costs that can complement existing available funding sources for capital costs. The Safe Drinking Water Trust proposed in SB 669 would provide a durable funding source to fill that gap.

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Best regards,

David J. Stoldt General Manager



March 13, 2019

Chief Consultant Gabrielle Meindl Senate Environmental Quality Committee State Capitol Sacramento, CA 95814-4900

Subject: SB 669 (Caballero) Safe Drinking Water Trust - SUPPORT

Dear Gabrielle

The Monterey Peninsula Water Management District supports SB 669 which would establish the Safe Drinking Water Trust, and is supported by the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) and the California Municipal Utilities Association (CMUA).

The primary challenge in at-risk water systems is that O&M costs generally cannot be financed with existing federal and state safe drinking water funding sources, hence a financial solution is needed for O&M and consolidation costs that can complement existing available funding sources for capital costs. The Safe Drinking Water Trust proposed in SB 669 would provide a durable funding source to fill that gap.

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Best regards,

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A STATEWIDE WATER TAX IS NOT THE RIGHT APPROACH

Why is the Trust a better approach?

- The vast majority of Californians have access to safe drinking water. However, some disadvantaged communities do not. This is a public health issue that the state must address.
- In 2018, the Legislature approved \$3 million for the preparation of a water systems needs analysis, and the State Water Resources Control Board is now determining how it will perform the analysis.
- Key to resolving the issue is addressing the funding gap for operation and maintenance (O&M) costs for community water systems that treat the water. O&M costs generally cannot be financed with existing federal and state safe drinking water funding sources.
- A financial solution is needed for O&M and consolidation costs that can complement existing funding sources for capital costs.
- The Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) and the California Municipal Utilities Association (CMUA) are sponsoring legislation to create a Safe Drinking Water Trust (Trust).
- The Trust's principal would be initially financed with a one-time infusion of General Fund dollars during a budget surplus year. With the record budget surplus for the 2019-20 Fiscal Year, this is the perfect year to create and fund the Trust.
- Funding this durable Trust via the General Fund, which is based largely on a progressive source of revenue, makes sense because taxpayers with higher incomes would contribute more, and taxpayers with lower incomes would contribute less.
- The Trust's principal would be invested, and the net income would be transferred to a Safe Drinking Water Fund, which the State Water Resources Control Board would administer.

Why is a proposed statewide water tax not the right approach?

- It is not sound policy to tax a resource that is essential to life.
- State law sets forth a policy of a human right to water for human consumption that is safe, clean, affordable and accessible. Adding a regressive statewide water tax on local water bills would work against keeping water affordable for all Californians.
- It would be highly inefficient to have over 3,000 local water agencies become tax collectors for the state because the resulting combined local administrative costs would exceed the combined state tax revenue collected from the local water bills.

For more information contact

Cindy Tuck, ACWA Deputy Executive Director for Government Relations, at cindyt@acwa.com or **Danielle Blacet**, CMUA Director for Water, at dblacet@cmua.org.



February 6, 2019

Senator Anna M. Caballero State Capitol Room 5052 Sacramento, CA 95814-4900

Dear Senator Caballero

The Governor recently released his trailer bill language "Safe And Affordable Drinking Water And Exide Cleanup" and on January 31st, Senator Monning introduced SB 200, establishing the "Safe and Affordable Drinking Water Fund." The Monterey Peninsula Water Management District urges caution about establishing a regressive statewide water tax on local water bills. We urge you instead to support the Safe Drinking Water Trust as supported by the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) and the California Municipal Utilities Association (CMUA).

It is not in the public interest to tax a resource that is essential to life. Further, it would be highly inefficient to have over 3,000 local water agencies become tax collectors for the state because the resulting combined local administrative costs would exceed the combined state tax revenue collected from the local water bills.

The primary challenge in at-risk water systems is that O&M costs generally cannot be financed with existing federal and state safe drinking water funding sources, hence a financial solution is needed for O&M and consolidation costs that can complement existing available funding sources for capital costs.

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Best regards,



February 6, 2019

Assembly Member Mark Stone P.O. Box 942849 Sacramento, CA 94249-0029

Dear Assembly Member Stone,

The Governor recently released his trailer bill language "Safe And Affordable Drinking Water And Exide Cleanup" and on January 31st, Senator Monning introduced SB 200, establishing the "Safe and Affordable Drinking Water Fund." The Monterey Peninsula Water Management District urges caution about establishing a regressive statewide water tax on local water bills. We urge you instead to support the Safe Drinking Water Trust as supported by the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) and the California Municipal Utilities Association (CMUA).

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February 6, 2019

Assembly Member Robert Rivas P.O. Box 942849 Sacramento, CA 94249-0030

Dear Assembly Member Rivas,

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February 6, 2019

Assembly Water, Parks & Wildlife Committee
Assembly Environmental Safety & Toxic Materials Committee, and
Assembly Budget Subcommittee No. 3

Dear Committee Members,

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Best regards,



October 29, 2018

The Honorable Lisa Murkowski Chairman Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee 304 Dirksen Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Rob Bishop Chairman House Natural Resources Committee 1324 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515 The Honorable Maria Cantwell Ranking Member Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee 304 Dirksen Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Raul Grijalva Ranking Member House Natural Resources Committee 1329 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Murkowski, Ranking Member Cantwell, Chairman Bishop, and Ranking Member Grijalva:

The undersigned organizations and utilities are writing to urge your support for the reauthorization of the Bureau of Reclamation's Title XVI Water Reclamation and Reuse competitive grant program authorized in the 2016 Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (WIIN) Act (Title XVI-WIIN).

Title XVI is the only federal program focused on funding water recycling projects in the western states, and with enactment of the FY 2019 Energy and Water Appropriations bill, the \$50 million authorization for Title-WIIN has been reached. Therefore, it is critical to reauthorize Title XVI-WIIN to support the continued development of water reuse in the West and the development of drought-proof water supplies.

Since Title XVI's inception in 1992, Congress has authorized 53 Title XVI recycling projects producing more than 400,000 acre-feet of drought-resistant water supply. To date, Congress has appropriated approximately \$672 million in federal funding which has been leveraged with non-federal funding to implement more than \$3.3 billion in water reuse improvements – a nearly 5:1 leverage ratio. However, as no new projects had been authorized by Congress since 2009, the 2016 WIIN Act created a mechanism to continue support for Western water reuse projects by establishing a competitive grant program within Title XVI, enabling new projects to be eligible for federal assistance.

There are currently 44 Title XVI-WIIN eligible projects awaiting assistance, with a total of \$528 million in eligible federal cost-share, this list will only grow as more projects become eligible. To address the federal cost-share demand, we urge that Title XVI-WIIN be reauthorized at \$250 million over five years, paid for by deauthorizing "inactive" Title XVI projects following a similar deauthorization process Congress enacted for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers projects in the 2014 Water Resources Reform and Development Act. Currently, the federal cost-share for projects that have never received funding or have not received funding in the past ten years is approximately \$200 million. Under the proposal, sponsors of projects listed for deauthorization would have a transparent and public process to submit

Title XVI Stakeholder Support Letter Page 2

information demonstrating the project's active status to the Bureau of Reclamation with a request to revoke the deauthorization.

Clean and reliable water is the backbone of a community's health and economy. Water reuse provides a sustainable and secure water supply for communities, increasingly important in the face of more frequent and severe droughts and changing hydrologic conditions throughout the West.

We are also aware that the WIIN 2016 authorizations for the desalination program (\$30 million), and western water storage funds (\$335 million) have also expired with the enactment of the FY 2019 Energy and Water Appropriations measure. We support the reauthorization of these programs as water storage and desalination projects work in tandem with water recycling projects to ensure that communities across the West have safe, secure, and sustainable water supplies.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. Should you have any questions or would like to discuss further, please do not hesitate to contact Patricia Sinicropi, WateReuse Association at psinicropi@watereuse.org.

Sincerely,

National Organizations

American Public Works Association (APWA) American Water Works Association (AWWA) Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies (AMWA)

National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA)

National Rural Water Association (NRWA)
Rural Community Assistance Partnership Inc.
(RCAP)

Water and Wastewater Equipment
Manufacturers Association (WWEMA)

Water Environment Ford

Water Environment Federation (WEF)
Western Coalition of Arid States (WESTCAS)
Western Recycled Water Coalition (WRWC)

State and Regional NGOs

WateReuse Arizona
WateReuse California
WateReuse Colorado
WateReuse Nevada
WateReuse Pacific Northwest (PNW)
WateReuse Texas
California Association of Sanitation Agencies
(CASA)

Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA)

Arizona Agencies

Apache Junction Water District
City of Tucson Water Department - Tucson Water
Flagstaff Water Services
Scottsdale Water

California Agencies

Alameda County Flood Control and Water Conservation
District Zone 7

Central Contra Costa Sanitary District

City of Corona

City of Escondido, Utilities Department

City of Modesto City of Pasadena

city of rasadena

City of Pismo Beach

City of Pleasanton

City of San Diego Public Utilities Department

Delta Diablo

Dublin San Ramon Services District
Eastern Municipal Water District

El Toro Water District

Inland Empire Utilities Agency (IEUA)

Irvine Ranch Water District (IRWD)

Las Virgenes Municipal Water District

Title XVI Stakeholder Support Letter Page 3

Leucadia Wastewater District Marina Coast Water District

Mesa Water District Monterey One Water

Monterey Peninsula Water Management District

Olivenhain Municipal Water District Orange County Water District

Otay Water District

Padre Dam Municipal Water District

Rincon del Diablo Municipal Water District

San Diego County Water Authority
San Elijo Joint Powers Authority

Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County

Santa Clara Valley Water District Santa Margarita Water District Scotts Valley Water District Santa Clarita Water (SCV Water)

Town of Marana Water Utilities Association

Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District Victor Valley Wastewater Reclamation Authority

(VVWRA)

Colorado Agencies

Arapahoe County Water & Wastewater Authority (ACWWA)

Denver Water

Nevada Agencies

City of Henderson - Utility Services

City of North Las Vegas Utilities Department Clark County Water Reclamation District Truckee Meadows Water Authority (TMWA)

New Mexico Agencies

Albuquerque Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority City of Rio Rancho

Oklahoma Agencies

City of Norman

Oregon Agencies

Clean Water Services

Texas Agencies

City of San Marcos
City of Wichita Falls
El Paso Water Utilities
Gulf Coast Authority (GCA)
McAllen Public Utility (MPU)
Upper Trinity Regional Water District

Utah Agencies

South Jordan City

Washington Agencies

King County, Wastewater Treatment Division

CC: The Honorable Kevin McCarthy, Majority Leader, U.S. House of Representative The Honorable Dianne Feinstein, U.S. Senator