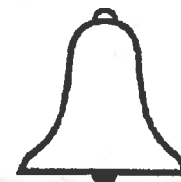


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Santa Margarita Water District

February 7, 2020

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

SUBJECT: Draft Future Drought Resiliency Act of 2020 - Support

Dear Congressman Huffman:

The Santa Margarita Water District ("District") strongly supports your draft bill, the Future Drought Resiliency Act of 2020. This bill addresses several of our areas of interest in terms of water recycling, desalination, and water use efficiency information and education.

The provision of the Competitive Grants for Water Recycling Program Authorization provides significant funding for the development and furtherance of water recycling programs. Santa Margarita is recognized as a leader in recycling and recycled storage in our region. Your bill provides an excellent opportunity to compete for additional funding for this critical resource.

Additionally, your bill incorporates Rep. Levin's Desalination Development Act (H.R. 3723) to support a grant program for desalination projects. It raises the existing funding authorization to \$240 million through 2024 to support the creation of approximately 100,000 acre-feet of water each year in additional average yield. We work closely with both Poseidon and the South Coast Water District in Rep. Levin's district on potential for long-term inclusion of ocean desal in our water portfolio.

And finally, the funding assistance for disadvantaged communities may be of significant value to us and our partners in the Community Water Systems Alliance. The aim of the CWSA is to bring practical assistance to underperforming water systems to help ensure safe, clean drinking water in disadvantaged communities. The funding in this area could help offset the costs of the provision for that assistance without further disadvantaging the systems served.

For these and other reasons, we strongly support your bill.

Very truly yours,
 SANTA MARGARITA WATER DISTRICT

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dan Ferons'.

Daniel R. Ferons
 General Manager