



August 7, 2020

The Honorable Jared Huffman U.S. House of Representatives 1527 Longworth House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20015

Dear Representative Huffman,

We write in support of the FUTURE Western Water Infrastructure and Drought Resiliency Act. Thank you for your work to secure funding and policy crucial to water supply security in California.

This bill aligns with the principles and priorities of the Newsom Administration's recently released Water Resilience Portfolio. Like the Portfolio, this bill recognizes that a comprehensive approach is necessary to safeguard the state's water quality, ensure that all Californians have access to safe and affordable drinking water, and that necessary water resources are preserved for the environment. In order to ensure a sustainable future for water use in California, we will need to pursue a wide variety of strategies, including water recycling, desalination, additional storage, wildlife-friendly agricultural practices, and drought planning that accounts for environmental needs.

This bill has many provisions that would be beneficial for the State of California's water sustainability efforts, including the following:

- Funding for ensuring safe drinking water for disadvantaged communities
- Investment in natural infrastructure, including headwaters forests and floodplains
- Allocations for recycled water infrastructure
- Provisions to assist the development of data collection and research
- Additional funding for the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation's Title XVI and WaterSMART grant programs
- Investments in career training for the next generation of water managers

These provisions and others will assist us in development and implementation of conservation strategies, the construction of necessary water infrastructure, ensuring that the state's Human Right to Water is fully realized, protection of the environment, and adapting to the challenges posed by climate change.

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These are just a few of the many facets of the FUTURE Western Water Infrastructure and Drought Resiliency Act that we welcome and support. Your legislation is important to California and other western states. We need effective water management and investment to enable our communities, economy and natural places to thrive. We commend you for your far-sighted approach.

Sincerely,

ared Blumenfeld

Secretary

California Environmental Protection Agency

Wade Crowfoot

Secretary

California Natural Resources Agency

Cc: Nancy Pelosi, Speaker of the House of Representatives

Raúl M. Grijalva, Chairman, House Committee on Natural Resources