



February 7, 2020

The Honorable Jared Huffman
Chairman
Subcommittee on Water, Oceans and Wildlife
Committee on Natural Resources
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Re: Draft FUTURE Drought Resiliency Act Comments

Dear Chairman Huffman:

On behalf of the San Juan Water District, CA and the City of Folsom, CA, we thank you for prioritizing western water issues and legislation in the 116th Congress. We also appreciate your willingness to receive comments and suggestions on the draft FUTURE Drought Resiliency Act prior to introduction.

SJWD was formed in 1954 and provides reliable, high-quality water service to both retail and wholesale customers in eastern Sacramento and southern Placer counties. We provide treated water to approximately 160,000 residents in our approximately 45 square mile service area. In addition, we provide an additional 171,000 customers treated water through a contract with Sacramento Suburban Water District. The City of Folsom is a full-service City with a current population of about 74,000 and is expected to reach a build-out population of approximately 115,000 people. The City provides its own utility services, including water, sewer collections, and solid waste, to all of its business and residential customers. While we rely on Folsom Reservoir as our primary source of water, both our agencies are partnering with others in the greater American River region to enhance and expand groundwater storage and conjunctive use projects as well as to establish water conservation practices individually and regionally. One of our primary goals is to plan for and mitigate climate change impacts in the future through the advancement of 21st century water infrastructure and the promotion of regional water supply reliability and resiliency.

Both SJWD and the City of Folsom are members of the Regional Water Authority (RWA). We fully endorse and support the specific comments and suggestions on the FUTURE Drought Resiliency Act outlined in RWA's letter to the Committee dated February 7, 2020. In general, our agencies support the overall concepts and ideas addressed in the FUTURE Drought Resiliency Act and appreciate the legislation's goal to balance the water supply needs of a variety of water users. We particularly appreciate the legislation's prioritization of federal programs that help agencies like ours meet the water infrastructure and resource needs of our communities. We share RWA's concerns with some specific provisions of the bill as outlined in its letter and offer our assistance in helping to further shape and refine the bill prior to official introduction.

Again, thank you for providing a forum for water users to engage with you and the Committee on the drafting of the FUTURE Drought Resiliency Act. We appreciate your efforts to address these important issues and look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Paul Helliker
General Manager
San Juan Water District

Marcus Yasutake
Environmental and Water Resources Director
City of Folsom