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Assembly California Legislature



ADAM C. GRAY

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COMMITTEES

CHAIR: JOINT LEGISLATIVE AUDIT
AGING AND LONG-TERM CARE
GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION
WATER, PARKS, AND WILDLIFE

August 5, 2014

Senator Fran Pavley
27th Senate District
State Capitol, Room 4035
Sacramento, CA 95814

Assemblymember Roger Dickinson
7th Assembly District
State Capitol, Room 2013
Sacramento, CA 94249

Re: Groundwater Legislation

Dear Senator Pavley and Assemblymember Dickinson,


As we begin the public legislative process of the proposed groundwater legislation, we want to reiterate our strong commitment to the inclusion of recharge accountability in the legislation. As the source of over 60% of California's water supply during drought years, groundwater serves as an irreplaceable backstop when surface water supplies dwindle.


Much of our area basin recharge contributions come from the use of surface water in agricultural and urban areas within our irrigation district. Any significant decrease in the surface water utilized locally will have a significant and extremely detrimental impact on the groundwater sustainability of the areas we represent. Any proposed decrease in surface water utilized locally must include a comprehensive and complete impact analysis on the groundwater basins the decreases will impact. This analysis should also include mitigation measures which will result in a neutral impact on the local groundwater basin.


We can't have it both ways. California needs to address its groundwater deficiencies. But this discussion is not complete if we do not also include the impact of surface water on groundwater basins. SB 1168 and AB 1739 should be amended to include a mandated public process analysis of the impact of surface water diversions upon groundwater basins.

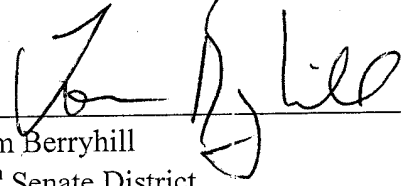
Sincerely,

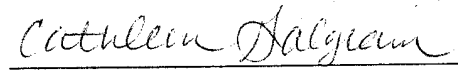



Adam C. Gray
21st Assembly District


Anthony Cannella
12th Senate District


Kristin Olsen
12th Assembly District


Tom Berryhill
14th Senate District


Cathleen Galgiani
5th Senate District

cc:

The Honorable Edmund G. Brown Jr.
Governor, State of California
California State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

Senator Kevin De León
Chair, Senate Appropriations Committee
State Capitol, Room 5108
Sacramento, CA 95814

Assemblymember Mike Gatto
Chair, Assembly Committee on Appropriations
State Capitol, Room 2114
Sacramento, CA 94249