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September 11, 2009

The Honorable Darrell Steinberg  
President pro Tempore  
California State Senate  
State Capitol, Room 205  
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Karen Bass  
Speaker  
California State Assembly  
State Capitol, Room 219  
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Dennis Hollingsworth  
Senate Republican Leader  
State Capitol, Room 305  
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Sam Blakeslee  
Assembly Minority Leader  
State Capitol, Room 3104  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: Delta Legislation Package**

Dear Senators Steinberg and Hollingsworth, Assembly Speaker Bass and Assembly Member Blakeslee:

Orange County Business Council represents global business members employing nearly 200,000 locally and 2,000,000 worldwide and who comprise the economic engine of Southern California. The business community understands that California's economy, jobs and water reliability are inexorably linked. Without a thoughtful and workable solution to the Delta's chronic problems, California's economic recovery will never get off the ground.

OCBC commends your efforts to produce a comprehensive plan that represents a fair compromise of the difficult issues long debated by the many diverse interests affected, in particular, balancing water supply reliability with critical environmental restoration in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, while reflecting the statewide significance of the Delta.

The time has come for action and we urge you to push ahead with your bi-partisan efforts to approve a legislative package this year that will address better governance in the Delta and wise water management statewide. Utilize the diverse support from business, labor and environmental groups for the Bay Delta Conservation Plan which offers a guide for the necessary ecosystem and water system improvements in the Delta. Enhance water availability through a statewide approach to water conservation along with support for emerging strategies such as recycling and desalination. Most importantly, develop financing options through bonds that support both the public benefits of the Delta plan and new water storage projects.

With your continued leadership, the Legislature could set the Delta and all of California water management on a healthy course. A sustainable water future is within reach, and with it comes the environmental and economic future we all want for California.

Sincerely,

Lucy Dunn  
President and CEO