SB 559 (Hurtado): State Water Resiliency Act of 2021 - SUPPORT







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SENATE FLOOR ALERT

May 26, 2021

To: Members of the California Senate

Re: SB 559 (Hurtado): State Water Resiliency Act of 2021 - SUPPORT Senate Third Reading File 193 (5/26/21)

On behalf of the signatories below, we wish to express **support** for SB 559 which seeks to address necessary repairs to State Water Project (SWP) and Central Valley Project (CVP) infrastructure, including canals, roads, and bridges that have been damaged due to subsidence.

California's statewide and regional conveyance facilities can support climate change resiliency by moving water to storage when hydrologic conditions are wet and for later use during inevitable future droughts. Water purveyors can blend these supplies with local water supplies to meet or exceed drinking water standards to make the most of California's limited water resources. Water delivered through the conveyance facilities is also used to replenish groundwater basins, fill reservoirs, support recycled water projects and enhance and restore ecosystems.

Subsidence damage to SWP and CVP facilities has significantly reduced California's resilience to the impacts of climate change. It threatens the water supply for hundreds of California communities, including millions living in disadvantaged communities throughout the state. This damage poses a real threat to California's ability to reliably deliver water throughout the state.

State, federal and local funding is necessary to support critical repairs to the Friant-Kern Canal, Delta Mendota Canal, San Luis Canal and California Aqueduct. SB 559 would establish the Canal Capacity Conveyance Restoration Fund for making repairs to these facilities, subject to appropriations by the Legislature. Over time, this bill would: 1) help maintain affordable, clean drinking water for at least 31 million people, including approximately 1.25 million people living in disadvantaged communities; 2) help preserve the state's \$3 trillion economy; 3) protect thousands of existing jobs and create hundreds of new ones each year while repairs are made; 4) support critical habitat and ecosystem restoration efforts already underway; 5) ensure irrigation water for nearly 3.25 million acres of farmland; and 6) bolster California's resilience to the impacts of climate change.

For all of the above reasons, we respectfully request that members of the Senate vote **AYE** on SB 559. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

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cc: Dennis O'Connor, Chief Consultant, Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee Todd Moffitt, Policy Consultant, Senate Republican Caucus