

June 5, 2025

Honorable Gavin Newsom, Governor State of California 1021 O Street, Suite 9000 Sacramento, CA 95814

Honorable Mike McGuire Senate President pro Tempore California State Senate

Honorable Scott Wiener, Chair Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee California State Senate

Honorable Brian Jones Senate Republican Leader California State Senate Honorable Robert Rivas Assembly Speaker California State Assembly

Honorable Jesse Gabriel, Chair Assembly Budget Committee California State Assembly

Assemblymember James Gallagher Assembly Republican Leader California State Assembly

RE: Support for Delta Conveyance Project Streamlining Trailer Bill

Dear Governor Newsom, President pro Tempore McGuire, Speaker Rivas, Senators Wiener and Allen, and Assemblymembers Gabriel and Bennett:

As representatives of Californians who rely and depend upon water supplies paid for and provided through the State Water Project, which continues to be California's backbone water supply infrastructure and one of the most affordable water supply options available for 27 million people and 750,000 acres of farmland, we write in support for the budget trailer bill that is intended to streamline processes for advancing the Delta Conveyance Project to a point where informed decisions can be made regarding construction investment.

California's water supply and infrastructure system is highly complex and interconnected, but the State Water Project remains the centerpiece of the entire system and absolutely fundamental to California's water supply and economic success. Now is the time for California to update and upgrade this critical infrastructure to ensure that families, businesses, and farmers get the water they need, when they need it, and to avoid catastrophic results for millions of Californians if we fail to modernize this system in advance of a significant natural disaster event.

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The Delta Conveyance Project has long been a victim of frivolous lawsuits and duplicative reviews. We all see these as the same problems facing major infrastructure throughout California, and foundational to why it is so difficult to do big things in our state and bring major infrastructure to completion. The budget trailer bill proposal restores balance to this process – ensuring legitimate concerns are addressed, while removing tools for obstruction and delay. The Department of Water Resources indicates that every year of delay in construction of the Delta Conveyance Project costs California's water ratepayers – including nearly 8 million people living in disadvantaged communities – approximately \$500 million. The budget trailer bill proposal reduces bureaucratic red tape, which translates into real savings for Californians and for the State budget.

Most major water systems – including the State Water Project – were built for a more predictable bygone pattern of precipitation and are not equipped for the stronger storms, deeper droughts, and abrupt swings driven by climate change. The system simply cannot capture the type of big flows now becoming more common, and that must change. Without action, the ability of the State Water Project to reliably deliver water to homes, farms, and businesses will decline.

The Delta Conveyance Project has been redesigned over the years to be smaller and more environmentally sensitive, and will generate thousands of good-paying union construction jobs and stimulate local economies, especially in areas hardest hit by economic downturns and drought-related agricultural cutbacks. This job stimulus is exactly what is needed to ensure that hard-working Californians are more economically equipped to be able to thrive and build a strong foundation for their families.

Water is the cornerstone of California's economic and environmental future. That is why we support the budget trailer bill proposal to protect California's future prosperity, equity, and resilience in the face of climate change.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Juin D. Mizka

TINA McKINNOR 61st Assembly District

Lisa Calderon

LISA CALDERON 56th Assembly District

Jacqui V S

JACQUI IRWIN 42nd Assembly District

Sol JAnhileta

BOB ARCHULETA 30th Senate District

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ALEXANDRA MACEDO 33rd Assembly District

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JOSE LUIS SOLACHE 62nd Assembly District

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DIANE DIXON 72nd Assembly District

ROSILICIE OCHOA BOGH 19th Senate District

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LAURIE DAVIES 74th Assembly District

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JOHN HARABEDIAN 41st Assembly District

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CHRIS WARD 78th Assembly District

LETICIA CASTILLO 58th Assembly District

JUAN CARRILLO 39th Assembly District

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DAVID TANGIPA 8th Assembly District

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JOSH LOWENTHAL 69th Assembly District

CELESTE RODRIGUEZ 43rd Assembly District

MIKE FONG 49th Assembly District

PILAR SCHIAVO 40th Assembly District