

From: [zamangel2002](#)  
To: [commentletters](#)  
Subject: Comment Letter — Options for Implementation of a Statewide Low-Income Water Rate Assistance Program  
Date: Thursday, January 10, 2019 8:29:15 AM

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Hello,

I came across this article listed below today and felt that I should comment;



[https://www.circleofblue.org/2019/world/california-water-board-outlines-606m-bill-assistance-program/?mc\\_cid=218971afec&mc\\_eid=2081e07cc9](https://www.circleofblue.org/2019/world/california-water-board-outlines-606m-bill-assistance-program/?mc_cid=218971afec&mc_eid=2081e07cc9)

I do agree that water bills are escalating at an astronomical pace statewide. However, this applies to all the various service bills - PG&E is ramping up their service charges, ISPs charge a bomb, garbage bill goes up annually, property tax keeps escalating...for services that taxpayers are being asked to subsidize for various social causes...

To boot - the federal standard for low income may as well be thrown out the window as far as economic cost of living goes in California.

I do not object to giving a helping hand, however, I do not agree with the methodology -

By introducing "a bottled water sales tax", you are sending a message that, at some level, you not only condone the use of plastic, but that you also promote the sale and use of plastic-bottled water! Hello! we should be focussing our effort on changing behavior towards REDUCING the use of plastic!!! Even in England, businesses are paying customers to return water bottles for recycling...all geared towards removing the plastic waste from littering and causing environmental damage.

<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2019/jan/02/plastic-bottle-deposit-scheme-in-uk-proving-a-hit-with-shoppers>

Encouraging the use of plastic bottled water just adds to the sheer volumes of spent plastic pollution.

This is just my two cents on how I view the world...thank you for reading it and hopefully, your organization will revisit this for an all-disciplines environmental perspective