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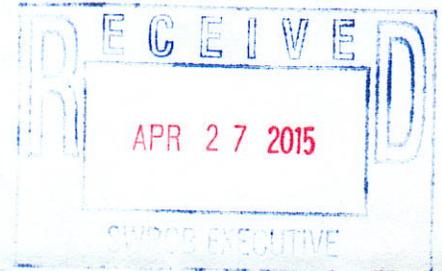
BRIAN W. JONES  
ASSEMBLYMAN, SEVENTY-FIRST DISTRICT

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COMMITTEES  
VICE CHAIR: BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONS  
APPROPRIATIONS  
ASSEMBLY LEGISLATIVE ETHICS  
BUDGET  
RULES  
JOINT LEGISLATIVE AUDIT  
SUBCOMMITTEES  
BUDGET SUBCOMMITTEE NO. 1 ON HEALTH  
AND HUMAN SERVICES  
BUDGET SUBCOMMITTEE NO. 6 ON  
BUDGET PROCESS, OVERSIGHT, AND  
PROGRAM EVALUATION

April 15, 2015

State Water Resources Control Board  
1001 I Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814



RE: Proposed framework for meeting Governor Brown's mandated 25% water cutback

Dear Members of the California State Water Resources Board:

First and foremost, I appreciate your willingness to seek and implement solutions that mitigate the impacts of this historic drought. I also recognize the challenges you face in meeting the Governor's mandated 25% water reduction in urban areas. However, the recently-announced framework for meeting that goal places an undue burden on agencies within my district and throughout San Diego County.

As you are aware, collective efforts put forth by agencies throughout San Diego County have made our region a leader in expanding and diversifying our water infrastructure. These agencies have also made strong efforts to encourage customers to conserve water. Unfortunately, due to the way your proposed framework is constructed, our region would be punished for taking these proactive measures.

Accordingly, I encourage you to explore the following alternative measures and policies geared toward providing a more equitable approach to achieving the mandated 25% reduction:

**Revise the baseline period for cutbacks** – Currently, using 2013 as the baseline year for mandatory reductions rewards agencies who have failed to implement conservation measures while punishing those who took proactive steps to reduce water use. For instance, Padre Dam Municipal Water District – located in my district – reduced water use by 29% between 2007-2013.

**Credits for prior investment** – Agencies who had the vision to invest in infrastructure that strengthens and diversifies the local supply of water should receive credits that can be applied against water use cutback targets.

**Credits for agencies who receive water from sources other than the State Water Project** – Approximately 30% of San Diego County's water comes from the State Water Project. The balance of our supply comes from other sources, including a majority from the Colorado River, which does not currently face restrictions. Despite this fact, agencies who have diversified their supply would receive no credit for their effort.

To reiterate, I would like to express my strong support for efforts to promote additional conservation measures throughout the entire state. However, we must do so in a manner that avoids discouraging the projects and efforts we'll need in order to strengthen our long-term supply of water.

Sincerely,



BRIAN W. JONES  
Assemblyman, 71<sup>st</sup> District