

DIRECTORS

PHILIP L. ANTHONY
DENIS R. BILODEAU, P.E.
JORDAN BRANDMAN
SHAWN DEWANE
JAN M. FLORY
CATHY GREEN
DINA NGUYEN
ROMAN A. REYNA
STEPHEN R. SHELDON
ROGER C. YOH, P.E.



ORANGE COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
ORANGE COUNTY'S GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY

OFFICERS

President
CATHY GREEN

First Vice President
DENIS R. BILODEAU, P.E.

Second Vice President
PHILIP L. ANTHONY

General Manager
MICHAEL R. MARKUS, P.E., D.WRE

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein
United States Senate
331 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

RE: 2016 Proposed Drought Legislation--Support

Dear Senator Feinstein:

The Orange County Water District writes regarding our earlier discussions with you and your staff to reaffirm support of your effort to pass a drought relief bill. The priority for an approach that will provide both the short-term and long-term tools to address the impacts associated with the drought is important. The changing hydrological patterns require Californians to implement new strategies to address such impacts. It is our understanding that you will shortly introduce legislation that would provide for robust support of alternative water supply infrastructure needs that are locally developed. As an agency that has led the nation in developing innovative water supply solutions, we endorse this effort and look forward to timely consideration of your legislation by the Senate.

Your prior 2015 legislation, S. 1894, included a broad array of infrastructure assistance tools. Of special note is your commitment to revitalize the U.S Bureau of Reclamation's Title XVI program and the Desalination Act by creating a promising competitive grants program to support reuse and desalination projects. If such provisions are included in your soon-to-be-introduced 2016 drought bill, we enthusiastically support the measure.

Again, we appreciate your leadership to advance a comprehensive response to the drought emergency. Please do not hesitate to contact Alicia Dunkin, Legislative Affairs Liaison, at adunkin@ocwd.com or (714) 378-8232 if you have any questions or if we may be of assistance to you or your staff.

Sincerely,

Cathy Green
President

CC: Congressman Dana Rohrabacher
Congressman Darrell Issa
Congressman Ed Royce
Congresswoman Mimi Walters
Congresswoman Loretta Sanchez
Congressman Alan Lowenthal
Congresswoman Linda Sanchez