



County of Monterey

Board of Supervisors

Luis A. Alejo, District 1
Glenn Church, District 2
Chris M. Lopez, Chair, District 3
Wendy Root Askew, Vice Chair, District 4
Kate Daniels, District 5

Clerk of the Board
168 West Alisal St. 1st Floor
Salinas, CA 93901
831 755 5066
cob@co.monterey.ca.us

February 10, 2025

The Honorable Anna Caballero
California State Senate
1021 O Street, Room 7620
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SB 72 (Caballero) California Water for All – SUPPORT

Dear Senator Caballero,

On behalf of the County of Monterey, I am writing in support of your measure SB 72. Given the extreme climate impacts of the current times, California needs to align its water supply strategy and policies with a target that will result in an adequate and reliable water supply for all Californians. Action is essential to ensure we are not managing scarcity but working toward a future with enough water for all. SB 72 will bring the fundamental changes necessary to achieve this goal.

This bill will modernize the California Water Plan while updating its provisions to address the extreme climate impacts of the 21st century. We support the bill's interim goal of securing 9 million acre-feet of water by 2040 while requiring the state agencies to develop a plan with a 50-year planning horizon to achieve specified targets, all in an effort to avoid a shortfall in California's future water supply. Additionally, we support that the measure would ensure that these targets are developed in consultation with local water agencies, wastewater service providers, and other stakeholders.

The County of Monterey has implemented comprehensive strategies to manage its water resources and address climate change impacts. The Greater Monterey County Integrated Regional Water Management Program (IRWMP) brings a variety of agencies and organizations together to ensure there is sustainable water use for the County. The County is also home to the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District, which serves 114,000 people and is tasked with increasing the water supply, protecting surface and groundwater resources, and managing and allocating available water, all while promoting conservation.

SB 72 would modernize the California Water Plan to reflect California's new climate reality and establish long-term water supply targets that, when met, will ensure sufficient, high-quality water for urban, environmental, and agricultural needs across the state. Therefore, the County of Monterey supports SB 72.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Monterey County's Public Policy Advisor, Ashley Walker of Nossaman LLP, at 916-442-8888.

Sincerely,

DRAFT

Chris M. Lopez, Chair
Board of Supervisors



WWW.CO.MONTEREY.CA.US

cc: The Honorable John Laird, 17th Senate District
The Honorable Robert Rivas, 29th Assembly District
The Honorable Dawn Addis, 30th Assembly District
California State Association of Counties (CSAC)
Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC)