

TO: Honorable Members of the California Legislature
FROM: Over 200 Public Water Agencies, Water Associations, Cities, and Business Organizations
DATE: August 20, 2018 (Originally Sent)
RE: **OPPOSITION TO NEW STATEWIDE “OPT-OUT” WATER MANDATE**
SENATE BILL 845 (MONNING)
New Twist on Statewide Water Tax Proposal

The coalition of over 200 public water agencies, water associations, cities, and business organizations listed below **urges the Legislature to REJECT this new statewide “opt-out” water mandate** for the following reasons:

- 1) **The proposal would impose a costly and complicated structure by requiring over 3,000 community water systems of all sizes to first solicit and then collect donations each month on customers’ local water bills to bypass local needs and be sent to Sacramento;**
- 2) **The proposal could be simplified by instead adding a new voluntary contribution fund check off to the California Form 540 and have it efficiently collected at a much lower cost by one state agency (the Franchise Tax Board);**
- 3) **SB 845 is unnecessary:**
 - A) **The Budget Conference Committee already acted on June 8, 2018 to reject the prior version of the budget trailer bill and instead set aside \$23.5 million General Fund dollars for safe drinking water to be allocated in August;**
 - B) **California voters just approved Proposition 68 in June with \$250 million for safe drinking water that is prioritized for disadvantaged communities;**
- 4) **It is an 11th-hour proposal: This new proposal did not go into print until the night of August 16, and **no policy committee has taken public testimony on this new proposal**. The proponents developed the proposed collection mechanism **without the input of the thousands of community water systems that would be charged with implementing it**; and**
- 5) **Adding this solicitation to local water bills may inadvertently exacerbate the issue of water affordability for some customers.**

If you have questions, please contact Cindy Tuck or Wendy Ridderbusch of the Association of California Water Agencies at (916) 441-4545, cindy@acwa.com or wendyr@acwa.com.

cc: The Honorable William W. Monning

ORGANIZATIONS OPPOSED TO SB 845 (Monning)

Alameda County Water District
Alhambra Chamber of Commerce
Amador Water Agency
Anderson-Cottonwood Irrigation District
Apple Valley Chamber of Commerce
Antelope Valley – East Kern Water Agency
Association of California Water Agencies
Bard Water District
Bella Vista Water District
Bighorn-Desert View Water Agency
BizFed Los Angeles County
Borrego Water District
Brawley Chamber of Commerce
Brooktrails Township Community Services District
Browns Valley Irrigation District
Building Owners and Managers Association of California
Calaveras County Water District
CalDesal
CalMutuals
California Business Roundtable
California Cleaners Association
California Business Properties Association
California Craft Beer Association
California Municipal Utilities Association
California Special Districts Association
Calleguas Municipal Water District
Camrosa Water District
Carlsbad Municipal Water District

Carmel Chamber of Commerce
Carmichael Water District
Casitas Municipal Water District
Central Basin Municipal Water District
Centerville Community Services District
Ceres Chamber of Commerce
Cerritos Regional Chamber of Commerce
Citrus Heights Water District
City of Beverly Hills
City of Corona Department of Water and Power
City of Fairfield
City of Fresno
City of Garden Grove
City of Glendale Water and Power
City of Lakewood
City of Newport Beach
City of Oceanside
City of Pasadena
City of Redding
City of Rialto/Rialto Utility Authority
City of Riverside
City of Roseville
City of San Diego
City of Santa Rosa
City of Shasta Lake
City of Thousand Oaks
City of Torrance
Claremont Chamber of Commerce
Clovis Chamber of Commerce
Coachella Valley Water District
Coastside County Water District
Commercial Real Estate Development Association (NAIOP CA)
Contra Costa Water District
Crescenta Valley Water District
Crestline-Lake Arrowhead Water Agency
Cucamonga Valley Water District

Culver City Chamber of Commerce
Del Paso Manor Water District
Desert Water Agency
Downtown San Diego Partnership
Dublin San Ramon Services District
East Orange County Water District
East Valley Water District
Eastern Municipal Water District
Economic Development Coalition
El Dorado County Chamber Alliance
El Dorado Hills Chamber of Commerce
El Dorado Irrigation District
El Monte/South El Monte Chamber of Commerce
El Segundo Chamber of Commerce
El Toro Water District
Florin Resources Conservation District/Elk Grove Water District
Elk Grove Chamber of Commerce
Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District
Fair Oaks Water District
Fallbrook Public Utility District
Folsom Chamber of Commerce
Foothill Municipal Water District
Fremont Chamber of Commerce
The Gateway Chambers Alliance
Georgetown Divide Public Utility District
Glendora Chamber of Commerce
Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District
Golden Hills Community Services District
Goleta Water District

Greater Coachella Valley
Chamber of Commerce
Hawthorne Chamber of
Commerce
Helix Water District
Hidden Valley Lake
Community Services District
Hollywood Chamber of
Commerce
Humboldt Bay Municipal
Water District
Humboldt Community
Services District
Idyllwild Water District
Indian Wells Valley Water
District
Indio Water Authority
Inland Empire Utilities
Agency
International Council of
Shopping Centers
Irvine Ranch Water District
Jurupa Community Services
District
Kern County Water Agency
Kinneola Irrigation District
Kirkwood Meadows Public
Utility District
Lake Tahoe South Shore
Chamber of Commerce
La Canada Irrigation District
La Verne Chamber of
Commerce
Laguna Beach County Water
District
Lake Hemet Municipal
Water District
Las Virgenes Municipal
Water District
LAX Coastal Area Chamber
of Commerce
Lincoln Avenue Water
Company
Long Beach Water
Department
Malaga County Water
District
Mammoth Community
Water District
Mariana Ranchos County
Water District

McKinleyville Community
Services District
Mendocino County Russian
River Flood Control & Water
Conservation Improvement
District
Merced Irrigation District
Mesa Crest Water Company
Mesa Water District
Metropolitan Water District of
Southern California
Mid-Peninsula Water District
Millview County Water District
Mission Springs Water District
Mojave Water Agency
Monrovia Chamber of
Commerce
Montara Water and Sanitation
District
Monte Vista Water District
Municipal Water District of
Orange County
Murrieta Temecula Group
National Federation of
Independent Businesses
Nevada Irrigation District
North Marin Water District
North Tahoe Public Utility
District
Northern California Water
Association
Norwalk Chamber of
Commerce
Oakdale Irrigation District
Olivenhain Municipal Water
District
Orange County Water District
Orchard Dale Water District
Otay Water District
Padre Dam Municipal Water
District
Palm Ranch Irrigation District
Palmdale Water District
Paradise Irrigation District
Pico Water District
Pittsburg Chamber of
Commerce
Placer County Water Agency
Pleasanton Chamber of
Commerce
Quartz Hill Water District

Rainbow Municipal Water
District
Rancho California Water
District
Rancho Cordova Chamber of
Commerce
Rancho Cucamonga Chamber
of Commerce
Redondo Beach Chamber of
Commerce
Regional Water Authority
Redwood Valley County Water
District
Richvale Irrigation District
Rincon del Diablo Municipal
Water District
Rio Alto Water District
Rio Linda Elverta Community
Water District
Roseville Area Chamber of
Commerce
Rowland Water District
Rubio Canon Land and Water
Association
Sacramento Metro Chamber
Sacramento Suburban Water
District
San Diego County Water
Authority
San Diego Regional Chamber
of Commerce
San Dieguito Water District
San Gabriel County Water
District
San Gabriel Valley Economic
Partnership
San Gabriel Valley Water
Association
San Gabriel Valley Municipal
Water District
San Juan Water District
Santa Clarita Valley Chamber
of Commerce
Santa Clarita Valley Water
Agency
Santa Fe Irrigation District
Santa Margarita Water District
Santa Ynez River Water
Conservation District
Improvement District No. 1
Scotts Valley Water District

Serrano Water District
Shasta Community Services District
South Bay Chamber of Commerce
South Coast Water District
South Tahoe Public Utility District
Southern California Water Coalition
Southwest California Legislative Council
Sweetwater Authority
Tahoe City Public Utility District
Templeton Community Services District
Textile Rental Service Association
Three Valleys Municipal Water District
Torrance Area Chamber of Commerce
Tuolumne Utilities District
Twain Harte Community Services District
United Chamber Advocacy Network
United Water Conservation District
Upper Russian River Water Agency
Vallecitos Water District
Valley Center Municipal Water District
Valley Industry & Commerce Association
Valley of the Moon Water District
Valley Water Company
Ventura County Economic Development Association
Victor Valley Chamber of Commerce
Vista Irrigation District
Walnut Valley Water District
Westlands Water District
Western Canal Water District
Western Municipal Water District

West Valley-Warner Center Chamber of Commerce
Yolo County Flood Control Water Conservation District
Yorba Linda Water District
Yuba Water Agency
Zone 7 Water Agency