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ORANGE COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

ORANGE COUNTY'S GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY

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October 28, 2019

Honorable Grace Napolitano
United States House of Representatives
1610 Longworth Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

RE: H.R. 1497 The Water Quality Protection and Job Creation Act - Support

Dear Congresswoman Napolitano:

The Orange County Water District (OCWD) would like to express its support of H.R. 1497, the Water Quality Protection and Job Creation Act, which you and Congressman DeFazio introduced. This legislation would provide a valuable expansion of the Clean Water State Revolving Fund program (SRF) and United States Environmental Protection Agency grants to support water infrastructure construction, including recycling projects, among other water quality needs.

As you know, OCWD built and operates the Groundwater Replenishment System (GWRS), the largest water recycling facility in the world. OCWD secured SRF low-interest loans to fund most of the GWRS project. An expansion of the GWRS, currently under construction, from 100 million gallons per day to 130 million gallons per day (or enough water for approximately one million people) was made possible, in part, when OCWD received SRF low-interest loans.

This bipartisan bill renews the federal commitment to addressing local water quality challenges by providing an infusion of federal assistance for the construction, repair, and replacement of the Nation's network of wastewater and stormwater conveyance and treatment facilities. H.R. 1497 significantly increases the amount of federal assistance made available to states and communities through the successful Clean Water State Revolving Fund program—the primary source of Federal assistance for wastewater infrastructure construction.

Please do not hesitate to let us know if we can offer you further information regarding the benefits this valuable proposed legislation offers for California and the Western United States. Please contact Alicia Dunkin, Legislative Affairs Liaison, at adunkin@ocwd.com or (714) 378-8232 if we may be of any assistance.

Honorable Grace Napolitano
October 28, 2019
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Vicente Sarmiento". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent initial "V".

Vicente Sarmiento, Esq.
President

cc: Senator Dianne Feinstein
Senator Kamala Harris
Congresswoman Linda Sánchez (CA-38)
Congressman Gil Cisneros (CA-39)
Congresswoman Katie Porter (CA-45)
Congressman Jose Luis Correa (CA-46)
Congressman Alan Lowenthal (CA-47)
Congressman Harley Rouda (CA-48)
Congressman Mike Levin (CA-49)
Congressman Peter DeFazio (OR-4)