

DIRECTORS

DENIS R. BILODEAU, P.E.
JORDAN BRANDMAN
CATHY GREEN
DINA L. NGUYEN, ESQ.
KELLY E. ROWE, C.E.G., C.H.
VICENTE SARMIENTO, ESQ.
STEPHEN R. SHELDON
TRI TA
ROGER C. YOH, P.E.
AHMAD ZAHRA



ORANGE COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
ORANGE COUNTY'S GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY

OFFICERS

President
VICENTE SARMIENTO, ESQ.
First Vice President
CATHY GREEN
Second Vice President
STEPHEN R. SHELDON
General Manager
MICHAEL R. MARKUS, P.E., D.WRE

August 8, 2019

Honorable Cory Gardner
United States Senate
354 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

RE: S. 1932 The Drought Resiliency and Water Supply Infrastructure Act - Support

Dear Senator Gardner:

The Orange County Water District (OCWD) writes to express its support of your legislation S. 1932, the Drought Resiliency and Water Supply Infrastructure Act. This legislation would provide a valuable expansion of U.S. Bureau of Reclamation programs authorized by the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (WIIN) Act of 2016.

OCWD built and operates the Groundwater Replenishment System (GWRS), the largest potable water recycling facility in the world. An expansion of the GWRS, currently under construction, was made possible in part when OCWD became one of the first recipients of a loan under the Water Infrastructure Innovation and Finance Act (WIFIA).

S. 1932 would finance additional water recycling projects, in addition to providing funding for surface and groundwater storage, as well as desalination projects. California has great need for programs such as these. Likewise, OCWD is supportive of the creation of a Reclamation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (RIFIA) given our own success with the WIFIA program.

OCWD has recommended S. 1932 for the consideration of our delegation. In addition, we would like to extend a personal invitation to you to visit OCWD and the GWRS when your schedule permits. Please do not hesitate to contact Alicia Dunkin, Legislative Affairs Liaison, at adunkin@ocwd.com or (714) 378-8232 if we may be of any assistance.

Honorable Cory Gardner
August 8, 2019
Page 2 of 2

Sincerely,



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)