









## DESERT WATER



March 27, 2025

The Honorable Monique Limón  
Chair, Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee  
1021 O Street, Room 3220  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE:** SB 72 (Caballero) The California Water Plan: long term supply targets – **SUPPORT**

\*Updated to reflect additional supporters

Dear Chair Limón,

The California Municipal Utilities Association (CMUA), California State Association of Counties (CSAC), and California Council for Environmental and Economic Balance (CCEEB), co-sponsors of SB 72 (Caballero), and the coalition of organizations above are pleased to support SB 72.

California is in a race against climate change which is pressured by multi-year droughts, floods, fires, and other intensifying climate change impacts. Consequently, there is an urgent need for California to develop aspirational targets that will complement and amplify Governor Newsom's Water Supply



Strategy and extend beyond any single Administration. Given the extreme climate impacts of the 21st century, an expanding economy, a growing population, the anticipated reductions from existing water resources, and the controls on the use of groundwater, California needs to align the state's water supply strategy and policies with a target that will result in an adequate and reliable water supply for all beneficial uses including the environment, agriculture, the economy, and all Californians. Recent research estimates a shortfall in California's future water supply between 4.6 and 9 million acre-feet annually by 2050 if the state takes no action.

SB 72 will bring the fundamental changes that are necessary to ensure a sustainable water future. SB 72 will do the following:

- Transform water management in California taking us from a perpetual state of supply vulnerability to a reliable and sufficient water supply that is adequate for all beneficial uses, including urban, agriculture, and the environment.
- Create a new "North Star" water supply planning target for 2040 that the state will need to work toward, along with a process to develop a target for 2050.
- Preserve the California way of life, supplying water to our homes and communities, habitat and environment, recreation and tourism, and business and economic success.
- Support economic vitality for all businesses, from restaurants to technology companies, and employers that depend on a reliable water supply.
- Fulfill the generational responsibility to develop a water system that will adapt to changes in the environment and allow the state to thrive now and for future generations.

The California Water Plan is the strategic plan for managing and developing water resources for current and future generations in the state. SB 72 works within the structure of the current California Water Plan, which hasn't been meaningfully updated for decades. SB 72 updates the California Water Plan for a 21st century climate.

For these reasons we urge your support for SB 72. If you have any questions about our position, please contact Andrea Abergel with CMUA at [aabergel@cmua.org](mailto:aabergel@cmua.org) or (916) 841-4060.

Sincerely,

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