



CITY OF LA VERNE CITY HALL

3660 "D" Street, La Verne, California 91750-3599
www.cityoflaverne.org

May 2, 2024

Senate Committee on Appropriations
State Capitol, Room 412
Sacramento, CA 95814

Submitted via the Legislative Position Letter Portal

RE: Support of Senate Bill 1330 (SB 1330) Urban Retail Water Supplier: Water Use.

Dear Honorable Senate Appropriations Committee Members:

I write to you on behalf of the City of La Verne to express our unequivocal support for SB 1330, introduced by Senator Bob Archuleta. This bill responds to critical challenges that have arisen from the 2018 legislation known as "Making Water Conservation a California Way of Life," which mandates significant reductions in water use across all sectors.

The implementation of the 2018 water conservation mandates by the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) has introduced regulatory complexities and financial burdens that surpass both the original legislative intentions and the recommendations by the Department of Water Resources. The SWRCB's regulations, particularly those targeting outdoor water use which accounts for less than 3% of the state's total water consumption, are not only unclear and administratively burdensome but also impose minimal water savings at a high cost. These stringent standards necessitate meeting each specific outdoor use standard to achieve the overall Water Use Objective, significantly restricting flexibility and potentially leading to economically unjustified practices. These regulations also impose aggressive timelines that are too aggressive given the number of changes that will have to occur to achieve the level of conservation envisioned. With estimated costs running into the low tens of billions of dollars from 2025 through 2040 across the State of California, primarily affecting suppliers, wastewater agencies, and customers, action needs to be taken towards creating more sustainable water conservation efforts that benefit customers, suppliers, and wastewater agencies.

SB 1330's extension of the reporting intervals for outdoor water use data from annual to once every ten years significantly decreases the ongoing administrative effort and associated costs. This adjustment enables us to focus resources on enhancing water

conservation measures rather than on repetitive data reporting. The bill also prudently extends the deadlines for compliance orders, giving municipalities additional time to meet water use objectives and implement necessary infrastructure changes thoughtfully and effectively.

In light of these points, we urge your strong support for SB 1330 to facilitate a more manageable and financially sustainable approach to urban water conservation. This legislation is crucial for ensuring that our water management practices can be as efficient and impactful as possible.

Thank you for considering the position of the City of La Verne on this critical issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tim Hepburn". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Tim Hepburn
Mayor

C: City Council
Ken Domer, City Manager