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United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0504

<http://feinstein.senate.gov>

March 26, 2012

Mr. Randy Record
President
Association of California Water Agencies
910 K Street, Suite 100
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Mr. Record,

It is my understanding that ACWA's Legislative Affairs Committee will consider adopting a position on H.R. 1837, the Sacramento-San Joaquin Valley Water Reliability Act, at its upcoming Legislative Affairs Committee on Thursday March 29. In anticipation of that discussion, I would like to make my position on the bill clear.

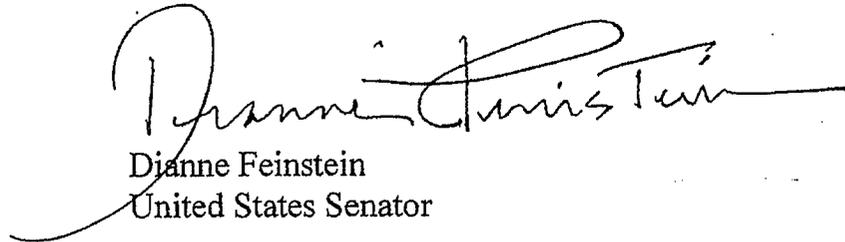
As I have previously indicated in the attached letter to the House Natural Resources Committee, I strongly oppose HR 1837 and will work to defeat it should it be considered by the Senate. I also want to dispel any misperception that I am working on companion legislation that could be conferenced with the House bill--I am not. Given that the House bill cannot pass the Senate and the Obama Administration has indicated its intent to veto it, I see no path forward for H.R. 1837.

It is truly unfortunate that for the past year this bill has served as an incredible distraction and impediment to the cooperation necessary to solve California's water supply challenges. Completion of the Bay Delta Conservation Plan, finalizing the feasibility studies for more storage, passing a water bond and facilitating more water transfers, groundwater banking and water recycling--these are the key tasks necessary to help produce more reliable water supplies for all Californians, not H.R. 1837.

I stand ready and willing to partner with my Congressional colleagues, water users, environmental groups and anyone else committed to working in good faith to find solutions. But to succeed, an entirely different approach is required, one that is open and inclusive, does not seek gains for certain water users at the expense of others nor abandons our fundamental state and federal environmental laws. I would encourage and welcome any legislative or administrative proposals that ACWA member agencies may have to improve California water supplies.

Thank you for your time and consideration of my views.

Sincerely,



Dianne Feinstein
United States Senator

Cc: Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
Santa Clara Valley Water District
San Diego County Water Authority
East Bay Municipal Water District
Municipal Water District of Orange County
Friant Water Users Authority
Delta Mendota Canal Authority