



March 11, 2026

Honorable Jerry McNerney  
California State Senate  
State Capitol, Suite 6640  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**SUBJECT: SB 872 (McNerney) - SUPPORT**

Dear Senator McNerney:

The above-identified organizations are pleased to support your SB 872, as amended on February 18, 2026, which would require the appropriation of \$150 million annually for a period of 20 years to the Department of Water Resources for the purposes of supporting capital improvements to restore the original design water conveyance capacity for state water conveyance systems impacted operationally by land subsidence, and would require the appropriation of \$150 million annually for a period of 20 years to the Delta Conservancy for projects in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta to improve existing levees.

More than 27 million Californians depend on water that flows through the State Water Project (SWP) conveyance facilities. These facilities provide water supplies that are necessary to maintain the state's economy, develop and support additional local water supplies, recharge local groundwater basins, and serve more than three-fourths of the disadvantaged communities throughout the state. Land subsidence is impacting the water conveyance infrastructure in California's San Joaquin Valley. As land sinks, the physical alignment and capacity of canals and aqueducts are compromised, leading to inefficiencies, rising maintenance costs, and diminished performance of California's water delivery systems. Critically, subsidence-impaired conveyance facilities have reduced operational flexibility to respond to grid conditions – limiting the ability to ramp pumping up or down in coordination with renewable energy generation, increasing curtailment of solar resources and forcing greater reliance on natural gas to fill the gap.

Restoring water conveyance capacity through SB 872 is a direct climate investment. Without repairs to the state's water conveyance system, water agencies will have reduced drinking water supplies, less water available to manage groundwater basins, fewer opportunities to transfer water between parties utilizing existing infrastructure, fewer opportunities to refill below and above ground water storage, increased operational costs, and potentially be forced to rely on more carbon-intensive alternatives. California cannot rely solely on ratepayers to cover subsidence repair costs, especially when the SWP serves a region that includes 75% of the state's disadvantaged communities, many of whom reside far from the physical damage but will still bear the consequences should it not be affordably repaired.

Additionally, the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, which supports local communities and the state and federal water projects, is also experiencing the impacts of climate change. Increasing droughts, more extreme precipitation events, earlier snowmelt, and sea level rise all create concerns for how to manage the dynamic ecosystem in a way that continues to support human life and natural ecosystems. The Delta is home to 1,100 miles of levees which provide protection to residences, agricultural lands, and electrical, transportation, and other infrastructure and help ensure fresh drinking water supply to millions of Californians. But many levees were constructed in the 1800s and are in desperate need of repair and reinforcement.

Addressing levee repairs and improvements will reduce risk of flooding, the potential for water supply disruptions, environmental harm, economic disruptions, and save money by addressing deficiencies before they turn into emergency measures. In 2025 alone, there were 3 near-levee breaches that were fortunately caught before a full breach but the risk is growing.

Committing to a durable, long-term funding gameplan for water conveyance subsidence repairs and Delta levees will ensure the state is contributing to a shared and coordinated investment to avoid further degradation of the state's primary water delivery systems and reducing hardship for communities and ecosystems that depend on it. Inaction will increase the cost of water for millions of Californians, increase strain on California's energy grid, and negatively impact disadvantaged communities, farms, businesses and ecosystems that depend on state and federal water project supplies, while fixing subsidence and Delta levees offers significant public benefits for the environment, economy, water reliability, and public safety.

We strongly appreciate your leadership in forging a unique partnership through SB 872 to elevate and address California's near-term infrastructure crises. Collectively, we stand ready to provide the needed support to amplify SB 872 and advance a meaningful investment program.

Sincerely,

Dan C. Dunmoyer, President & CEO  
**California Building Industry Association**

Mike Roos, President  
**Southern California Leadership Council**

Adrian Covert, Senior Vice President of  
Public Policy  
**Bay Area Council**

Will Oliver, President/CEO  
**Fresno County Economic Development  
Corporation**

Vijay Das, Policy Director  
**New California Coalition**

Charley Wilson, Executive Director & CEO  
**Southern California Water Coalition**

Jose Martinez, President, Board of Directors  
**San Gabriel Valley Water Association**

Harvey De La Torre, General Manager  
**Metropolitan Water District of Orange County**

James Lee, General Manager  
**Crescenta Valley Water District**

John Bosler, P.E. General Manager/CEO  
**Cucamonga Valley Water District**

Chisom Obeolu, Assistant General Manager --  
Water  
**Glendale Water and Power**

Justin Scott-Coe, General Manager/CEO  
**Monte Vista Water District**

Christiana Daisy, Interim General Manager  
**Inland Empire Utilities Agency**

Nina Jazmadarian, General Manager  
**Foothill Municipal Water District**

Danielle Borja, President & CEO  
**Greater Conejo Valley Chamber of Commerce**

Joe Mouawad, P.E., General Manager  
**Eastern Municipal Water District**

Michael Quigley, Executive Director  
**California Alliance for Jobs**

Jazmine Advincula, Director of Public Policy  
**CalAsian Chamber of Commerce**

Mayor Sharona R. Nazarian, PsyD  
**City of Beverly Hills**

Amanda Walsh, Vice President of Government  
Affairs  
**Orange County Business Council**

Rich Lambros, Executive Director  
**Secure Water Alliance**

Jeremy Harris, President & CEO  
**Long Beach Area Chamber of Commerce**

Thomas Love, General Manager  
**Upper San Gabriel Valley MWD**

Mandip Samra, General Manager  
**Burbank Water and Power**

Matthew Litchfield, General Manager, P.E.  
**Three Valleys Municipal Water District**

Jason A. Martin, General Manager  
**Rancho California Water District**

Dave Pederson, General Manager  
**Las Virgenes Municipal Water District**

Edward Caldwell, General Manager  
**West Basin Municipal Water District**

Paul Cook, P.E., General Manager  
**Irvine Ranch Water District**

Craig D. Miller, P.E., General Manager  
**Western Municipal Water District**

Stephen Bise, PE, TE, Director of Public Works  
**City of Fullerton**

Norman Huff, General Manager  
**Camrosa Water District**