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December 2, 2015

Chair Felicia Marcus  
State Water Resources Control Board  
PO Box 100  
Sacramento, CA 95812-0100



Dear Chair Marcus:

I appreciate this opportunity to comment on the State Water Resources Control Board's possible extension of drought restrictions. I represent the 42<sup>nd</sup> Assembly District, which includes most of the Coachella Valley and stretches from Yucaipa to Twentynine Palms.

The emergency regulations adopted by the SWRCB use a simple metric across California: Residential Gallons per Capita Day. Unfortunately, this metric fails to account for regional differences. While the conservation requirements do vary based on historical usage, the methodology lacks the nuance necessary to provide meaningful comparisons between water districts.

The result has been an unfair burden on the communities I represent. For instance, my district has a large number of part-time properties that require water year-round, but which are not factored into the population statistics. Additionally, communities in my district have been actively engaging in conservation efforts for years, but those past efforts are not recognized by the current regulations.

As the Board considers long-term water conservation regulations, I hope it will move improve its methodology to account for factors like these:

- Climate
- Development patterns
- Seasonal population & tourism
- Previous conservation progress
- Water supply portfolios

Additionally, if California sees a wet winter, it may be possible to ease the restrictions. The SWRCB should evaluate our situation next year, when we have a clearer picture of the 2016 snowpack.

Thank you again for the opportunity to comment and for your consideration of these concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chad Mayes".

CHAD MAYES  
Assemblymember, 42<sup>nd</sup> District