

500 S. Main Street, Suite #410, Orange, CA 92868 | P: (714) 953-1300 | F: (714) 953-1302 | www.ACCOC.org

May 30, 2017

The Honorable Shirley Weber California State Assembly State Capitol P.O. Box 942849 Sacramento, CA 94249-0079

## RE: AB 1323 (Weber) Sustainable water use and demand reduction: stakeholder workgroup. – SUPPORT.

Dear Assembly Member Weber:

The Association of California Cities – Orange County (ACC-OC) would like to express its support of the proposed legislation Assembly Bill 1323 (Weber), which would require the Department of Water Resources (DWR) to convene a stakeholder workgroup to develop, evaluate, and recommend proposals for establishing new water use targets for urban water suppliers.

A number of bills have been introduced in the Legislature proposing the next iteration of long-term water use efficiency beyond the existing 2020 timeframe. Inevitably, those bills represent different stakeholder perspectives, visions, and approaches to the development of California's future efficiency and conservation framework. In the face of these conflicting perspectives, AB 1323 takes an important and necessary step towards creating consensus recommendations that can be advanced legislatively.

California's recent drought demonstrated the pressing need for improvements in how we plan for and respond to exceptionally dry conditions. Water agencies across the state agree that smart, thoughtful enhancements to the state's water laws can make California more drought-resilient. AB 1323 would ensure that a deliberate and meaningful process be undertaken, in which a broad range of stakeholders are able to develop consensus recommendations that would make not only conservation, but also water use efficiency, a way of life in California

The well-being of California's cities is of paramount importance to the ACC-OC. For this and the reasons described above, the Association of California Cities – Orange County supports AB 1323. Should you have any questions about our position or about the ACC-OC, please contact Diana Coronado, ACC-OC's Legislative Affairs Director, at (714) 953-1300 or at dcoronado@accoc.org.



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Sincerely,

Heather Stratman

Chief Executive Officer

Heather Strutman

Association of California Cities - Orange County

CC:

Orange County State Legislative Delegation ACC-OC Board of Directors