



Sacramento Legislative Office

May 21, 2019

The Honorable Mike McGuire
Chair, Senate Governance and Finance Committee
State Capitol, Room 408
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 1220 (Garcia): Metropolitan Water District (Amended March 28, 2019)
SUPPORT

Senate Governance and Finance Committee

Dear Senator McGuire:

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California is pleased to support AB 1220, as amended on March 28, that amends the Metropolitan Water District Act to set a membership floor so that no member agency has any fewer number of representatives as of January 1, 2019.

AB 1220 is sponsored by the Central Basin Municipal Water District (Central Basin), a Metropolitan member agency. AB 1220 addresses Central Basin's concern that it has experienced an increase in population but a concurrent decrease in the percentage of its service area's assessed valuation relative to the service area of other member agencies over the last five years. Central Basin is concerned that it may lose a seat on the Metropolitan Board in the next five to ten years if its relative percentage of the total Metropolitan assessed property valuation continues to decline.

Metropolitan's Board recognizes the need to ensure adequate representation for the people served by its member agencies. Several studies conclude that, in most cases, the increase in assessed valuation and population growth is closely aligned. However, in Central Basin's case, the population growth outpaced the increase in its assessed valuation. For this reason, the Metropolitan Board agreed to support setting a floor to guarantee that every member agency retains its current number of seats.

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AB 1220 is a reasonable approach to ensuring adequate representation for the people served by Central Basin. Metropolitan supports AB 1220 and we look forward to working with Central Basin to ensure AB 1220's successful passage in 2019.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kathy Viatella". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

Kathy Viatella
Executive Legislative Representative

cc: Members of the Senate Governance and Finance Committee
The Honorable Christina Garcia