



THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT  
OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Office of the General Manager

April 1, 2019

The Honorable Grace Napolitano  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1610 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

RE: Metropolitan Water District of Southern California's SUPPORT for H.R. 1162: the Water Recycling and Investment Act of 2019

Dear Representative Napolitano:

On behalf of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, I am writing to express our support for H.R. 1162, the Water Recycling and Investment Act of 2019. We applaud your bold leadership on these milestone policy goals.

Metropolitan is the regional wholesaler to 26 member agencies, which along with their retail suppliers collectively serve quality drinking water to over 19 million Southern Californians – one out of every two Californians – throughout the 5,200 square-mile, six-county service area. Many of our member agencies rely on the funding provided by federal programs to enable them to implement innovative water supply solutions throughout our service area in ways that are responsive to their local supply conditions. Robust, diverse funding sources are essential to ensure continued reliability and resiliency needed to protect California's vibrant economy and quality of life in the face of changing hydrology due to shifting climate conditions.

This timely and thoughtful legislation, if enacted, would expand the Bureau of Reclamation's Title XVI Grant Program through the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (WIIN) Act to a funding level of \$500 million, increase the federal cost share to 30 percent, remove the requirements for projects to be in drought or disaster areas and to be specifically named in legislation. H.R.1162 would remove the sunset for the WIIN Act, making that landmark legislation permanent. Metropolitan supports all of these policy changes. Additionally, we encourage you to consider clarifying language to ensure that eligible projects which meet multiple policy priorities and/or deliver benefits across multiple jurisdictions, receive the highest funding priority.

It is our hope that H.R. 1162 will be scheduled for prompt action in the 116<sup>th</sup> Congress. As always, Metropolitan stands at the ready to be a resource to you and your staff as this important measure moves forward.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeffrey Kightlinger".

Jeffrey Kightlinger  
General Manager