

**Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
Federal Legislative Matrix
September 10, 2020 – 116th Congress, Second Session**

Topic	Bill / Author	Status	Title – Summary	MWD Position	Effects on MWD
Assistance for Disadvantaged Communities	H.R. 4832 (Fudge, D-OH)	10/23/19: Referred to the House Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure, Energy and Commerce, and Ways and Means.	Low-Income Water Customer Assistance Programs Act of 2019 Amends the Safe Drinking Water Act and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to establish pilot programs to assist low-income households maintain access to sanitation services and drinking water.	SUPPORT Based on Board-adopted January 2019 Federal Legislative Priorities	The bill does not directly impact Metropolitan. However, the bill has several provisions that could help our member agencies. It establishes a pilot program that will allow agencies serving disadvantaged communities to finance projects under the Safe Drinking Water Act and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act with more favorable borrowing terms to better meet their needs. As a pilot, the program would be evaluated before implementing a permanent program.
Assistance for Disadvantaged Communities	H.R. 5347 (Cox, D-CA)	7/1/20: Passed House as part of H.R. 2, the Moving Forward Act.	Disadvantaged Community Drinking Water Assistance Act Requires the Secretary of the Interior to establish a grant program to close gaps in access to safe drinking water in disadvantaged communities.	SUPPORT Based on Board-adopted January 2019 Federal Legislative Priorities	Metropolitan and our member agencies may benefit from provisions that provide funding and assistance to improve source water protection.
Assistance for Disadvantaged Communities	H.R. 6622 (McKinley, R-WV) Companion Bill: S. 2674 (Capito, R-WV)	4/24/20: Referred to House Energy and Commerce Committee 10/23/19: Referred to the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works	Assuring Quality Water Infrastructure Act Amends the Safe Drinking Water Act to establish a grant program for improving infrastructure asset management by small public water systems.	SUPPORT Based on Board-adopted January 2019 Federal Legislative Priorities	The bill does not directly impact Metropolitan, but has provisions that would help small public water systems develop asset management programs. It also requires small public water systems to share data collected through the program to the state agency administering the State Drinking Water Revolving Loan Fund.

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Assistance for Disadvantaged Communities	S. 3590 (Barrasso, R-WY)	5/11/20: Reported favorably out of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee	Drinking Water Infrastructure Act Amends the Safe Drinking Water Act to provide funding to disadvantaged communities to meet their technical, managerial, and financial challenges. The bill also establishes a competitive grant programs to assist small, medium, and large community water systems for capital improvements and meet compliance challenges with current regulations. It also requires EPA to set a drinking water standard for PFOA and PFOS within two years.	SUPPORT IF AMENDED Based on Board-adopted January 2020 Federal Legislative Priorities	Metropolitan’s member agencies may benefit from provisions that provide funding and assistance to remediate contaminated groundwater as well as grant programs to assist disadvantaged communities. Metropolitan supports using a science-based, data-driven process that is protective of public health, but does not support date-certain MCL setting. Metropolitan is seeking an amendment to remove the requirement that EPA set a drinking water standard by a date certain.
Endangered Species Act Oversight	H.R. 548 (Calvert, R-CA)	2/4/19: Referred to the House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Water, Oceans and Wildlife.	Federally Integrated Species Health Act or the “FISH Act” Transfers the authority to oversee ESA-related responsibilities for anadromous fish from the Secretary of Commerce to the Secretary of the Interior.	SUPPORT Based on Board-adopted January 2019 Federal Legislative Priorities	This would simplify ESA consultations by consolidating those functions/authorities to one federal agency (US Fish and Wildlife Service) rather than two under the current law (the second being National Marine Fisheries Service). This would directly benefit Metropolitan's interests in the Delta related to SWP operations and facilities, as well as our Delta islands activities.

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Endangered Species Act Oversight	H.R. 4723 (Huffman, D-CA)	1/14/20: Hearing held by the House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Water, Oceans and Wildlife.	Salmon Focused Investments in Sustainable Habitats Act of 2019 or the “Fish Act of 2019” Requires the identification of salmon conservation areas.	OPPOSE UNLESS AMENDED Based on Board-adopted January 2019 Federal Legislative Priorities	The bill could restrict SWP supplies or render supplies more costly and preclude new Delta conveyance from obtaining federal permits. The new “least adverse impact” standard would be significantly more restrictive than NEPA or the federal ESA. In contrast, the proposed watershed management and restoration and grant programs could benefit Metropolitan’s SWP supplies by funding actions that improve conditions for listed salmon runs and relieving regulatory pressures on coordinated SWP/CVP operations. Metropolitan is seeking an amendment to remove the “least adverse impact” standard in the bill.
Financing Tools for Water Infrastructure Projects	H.R. 1429 (Waters, D-CA)	2/28/19: Referred to the House Appropriations Committee and the House Budget Committee.	Drinking Water Infrastructure for Job Creation Act Establishes an emergency supplemental appropriation of \$7.5 billion in fiscal year 2019 for the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) available for the next six years, and exempts it from sequestration under the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.	SUPPORT Based on Board-adopted January 2019 Federal Legislative Priorities	The DWSRF is the largest source of funding for many of the nation's drinking water programs. The bill would increase and stabilize both DWSRF and Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF), providing low-cost federal financial assistance for Metropolitan and our member agencies.

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Financing Tools for Water Infrastructure Projects	H.R. 1904 (Grijalva, D-AZ)	7/1/20: Passed House as part of H.R. 2, the Moving Forward Act.	Indian Water Rights Settlement Extension Act Amends the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 to make the Reclamation Water Settlements Fund permanent.	SUPPORT Based on Board-adopted January 2019 Federal Legislative Priorities	Federal funding is essential to ensure settlement agreements negotiated between agencies and tribes are enacted. This bill makes the Reclamation Water Settlements Fund permanent providing greater certainty to the Bureau’s budget and protecting ongoing funding needs for all water resource projects within the Bureau’s jurisdiction.
Financing Tools for Water Infrastructure Projects	H.R. 2313 (Huffman, D-CA)	7/1/20: Passed House as part of H.R. 2, the Moving Forward Act.	Water Conservation Rebate Tax Parity Act Amends the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to expand the exclusion for certain conservation subsidies to include subsidies for water conservation or efficiency measures and storm water management measures.	SUPPORT Based on support of H.R. 4615 introduced in 114 th Congress and Board-adopted January 2019 Federal Legislative Priorities	Consumers enjoy a Congressional-authorized tax exempt status for energy conservation rebates. This bill would support tax parity by clarifying tax-exempt status for both energy and water conservation rebates.
Financing Tools for Water Infrastructure Projects	H.R. 2772 (Ruppersberger, D-MD) Similar Intent: S. 4129 (Wicker, R-MS)	7/1/20: Passed House as part of H.R. 2, the Moving Forward Act. 7/1/20: Referred to the Senate Committee on Finance.	House Title: Investing in Our Communities Act Senate Title: Lifting Our Communities through Advance Liquidity for Infrastructure Act Both bills amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to restore the tax exemption for advance refunding bonds.	SUPPORT Based on Board-adopted January 2020 Federal Legislative Priorities	The ability to advance refund bonds on a tax-exempt basis would be very beneficial to Metropolitan and our member agencies. Advance refunding bonds, when tax-exempt, allows municipal issuers to lower borrowing costs to take advantage of favorable interest rates.

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Financing Tools for Water Infrastructure Projects	HR. 7073 (Garamendi, D-CA) Similar Intent: S. 4308 (Sinema, D-AZ)	6/1/20: Referred to House Oversight and Government Reform and House Committee on Financial Services. 7/23/20: Referred to the Senate Committee on Finance.	Special Districts Provide Essential Services Act Both bills allow special districts to access future federal funding to help offset costs associated with responding to the COVID-19 pandemic. It also defines special districts in federal statute for the first time.	SUPPORT Based on Board-adopted January 2020 Federal Legislative Priorities	Metropolitan and some of our member agencies would qualify as special districts under the act. If additional funds are allocated to States to help offset costs associated with the COVID-19 pandemic, special districts would be eligible to receive funding.
Financing Tools for Water Infrastructure Projects	H.R. 7575 (Defazio, D-OR)	7/30/20: Passed out of the House, received in the Senate.	Water Resources Development Act of 2020 Provides authority for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to carry out water resources development projects and studies; it also reforms and provides policy direction to the Corps for implementation of its civil works missions.	SUPPORT Based on Board-adopted January 2020 Federal Legislative Priorities	While this bill does not impact Metropolitan directly, member agencies have projects and studies authorized in this bill. Additionally, there are several provisions in the bill that could be beneficial to Metropolitan including a demonstration program for detecting, and preventing harmful algal blooms, as well as, a comprehensive study of the Yolo Bypass that will include recommendations for potential projects to respond to changing hydrologic and climatic conditions in the region.
Financing Tools for Water Infrastructure Projects	S. 2636 (Cardin, D-MD)	10/17/2019: Referred to Senate Environment and Public Works Committee.	Clean Water Infrastructure Resilience and Sustainability Act Amends the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to establish a program to make grants to eligible entities to increase the resilience of publicly owned treatment works to natural hazards.	SUPPORT Based on Board-adopted January 2019 Federal Legislative Priorities	This bill does not impact Metropolitan directly, as Metropolitan is neither a POTW nor a community water system serving a small or disadvantaged community, but may offer aid to some member agencies.

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Financing Tools for Water Infrastructure Projects	S. 3591 (Barrasso, R-WY)	5/11/20: Reported favorably out of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee.	America’s Water Infrastructure Act Title 1 of this bill is the Water Resources Development Act of 2020 authorizing Army Corps of Engineers water projects. Title 2 of this bill authorizes a variety of funding for EPA wastewater and stormwater management programs.	SUPPORT Based on Board-adopted January 2020 Federal Legislative Priorities	This legislation authorizes \$17 billion in new water infrastructure projects. The bill also provides funding for research on quagga mussel prevention, invasive species control in the Colorado River, and reauthorizes and increases funding for EPA’s Clean Water State Revolving Fund and Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act. Metropolitan and our member agencies may benefit from the increased federal support for water programs in this bill.
Financing Tools for Water Infrastructure Projects	S. 3752 (Menendez, D-NJ)	6/2/20: Hearing held before the Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.	State and Municipal Assistance Response and Transition Act or the “SMART Act” Provides \$500 billion to the Coronavirus Local Community Stabilization Fund to help states, local governments, and tribes respond to the pandemic.	SUPPORT AND AMEND Based on Board-adopted January 2020 Federal Legislative Priorities	The legislation provides state and local governments, including several Metropolitan’s member agencies, assistance for COVID-19 related expenditures. If the bill is amended to include special districts Metropolitan and all of our member agencies would eligible to receive assistance.

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Financing Tools for Water Infrastructure Projects	S. 4188 (Harris, D-CA)	7/22/20: Hearing held before the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Subcommittee on Water and Power.	Water for Tomorrow Act of 2020 A bill to provide for drought preparedness and improved water supply reliability. It includes provisions to help disadvantaged communities have access to safe drinking water; increases the authorization for the Bureau of Reclamation water recycling program from \$50 million to \$500 million; establishes a “Reclamation Infrastructure Finance Innovation Act” (RIFIA) program to provide low-interest loans for Bureau of Reclamation projects; and other provisions.	SUPPORT IF AMENDED Based on Board-adopted January 2020 Federal Legislative Priorities	Metropolitan and our member agencies would benefit from several of the provisions in this bill including increased investment in water recycling projects, extension of the WaterSmart program, and funding for fisheries restoration projects. The RIFIA program established in this bill is different from the RIFIA program created in S. 1932 which is more streamlined and broadly applicable to a variety of water infrastructure projects. Metropolitan is seeking an amendment to replace the RIFIA language in this bill with the RIFIA language in S.1932.
Per and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS)	H.R. 2533 (Pallone, D-NJ)	7/1/20: Passed House as part of H.R. 2, the Moving Forward Act.	Providing Financial Assistance for Safe Drinking Water Act or the “PFAS Drinking Water Act” Assists community water systems affected by PFAS contamination.	SUPPORT Based on Board-adopted January 2019 Federal Legislative Priorities	This bill provides funding for both regional and source water protection benefits to Metropolitan and our member agencies. PFAS has been detected by some water agencies the Metropolitan service area; this bill would provide additional funding to help recover treatment costs.
Per and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS)	H.R. 2570 (Rouda, D-CA)	9/26/19: Mark-up held before the House Energy and Subcommittee on Environment and Climate Change.	PFAS User Fee Act of 2019 Ensures polluters pay ongoing water treatment costs associated with contamination from perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl substances, and for other purposes.	SUPPORT Based on Board-adopted January 2019 Federal Legislative Priorities	This legislation provides resources for treatment and mitigation measures, and funding of watershed management programs based on the “polluter pays” principle. This bill will provide additional funding to help Metropolitan’s member agencies recover treatment costs.

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Per and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS)	H.R. 5539 (Pappas, D-NH)	1/6/20: Referred to the House Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment. 7/1/20: The section of this bill containing a grant program for PFAS remediation passed the House as part of H.R. 2, the Moving Forward Act.	Clean Water Standards for PFAS Act of 2020 Requires the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to review and develop effluent standards, pretreatment standards, and water quality criteria for PFAS under the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, and to provide Federal grants to publicly-owned treatment works to implement standards.	SUPPORT Based on Board-adopted January 2019 Federal Legislative Priorities	If PFAS were to be listed as toxic pollutants, dischargers would be obligated to install best available technology economically achievable to meet the pretreatment requirements. This would alleviate the responsibility of publicly owned treatment works from installing control technologies and provide assistance to help implement pretreatment programs upstream of wastewater treatment facilities. PFAS has been detected by some water agencies within the Metropolitan service area. These agencies would benefit from dischargers removing PFAS before these chemicals enter the waterways.
Per and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS)	H.R. 5550 (Levin, D-MI)	1/7/20: Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.	PFAS Safe Disposal Act Requires the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to promulgate regulations regarding disposal of materials containing perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances or aqueous film forming foam.	SUPPORT Based on Source Water Protection Policy Principles and Board-adopted January 2019 Federal Legislative Priorities	The proper disposal of PFAS wastes, including firefighting foams, is a prudent source water protection measure. The potential elimination or reduction of a contaminant could help stabilize water treatment costs for Metropolitan and member agencies. Note: similar provisions are included in H.R 535 “PFAS Action Act of 2019.”
Per and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS)	H.R. 7392 (Slotkin, D-MI)	7/21/20: Passed House as part of H.R. 6395, The National Defense Authorization and Appropriations Act of Fiscal Year 2021	Military PFAS Testing Disclosure Act Directs the Secretary of Defense to publicly disclose the results of PFAS testing on active or former military sites and to notify public water systems of any PFAS testing adjacent to their facilities.	SUPPORT Based on Board-adopted 2020 Federal Legislative Principles and Priorities	This bill would be beneficial to Metropolitan and our member agencies because there are active and former military facilities in our service areas.

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Per and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS)	S. 2980 (Gillibrand, D-NY)	12/4/19: Referred to the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works	Clean Water Standards for PFAS Act of 2019 Requires the promulgation of certain standards for perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances under the Federal Water Pollution Control Act	SUPPORT IF AMENDED Based on Board-adopted 2020 Federal Legislative Principles and Priorities	Requires EPA to review and develop effluent standards, pretreatment standards, and water quality criteria for PFAS under the Clean Water Act. The potential elimination or reduction of a contaminant could help stabilize water treatment costs for Metropolitan and our member agencies. Metropolitan is seeking amendments to exempt water and wastewater treatment residuals from third party liability and provide funding for upstream pretreatment programs.
Source Water Protection	H.R. 1331 (Craig, D-MN)	4/8/19: Passed the House, referred to the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works.	Local Water Protection Act Amends the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to reauthorize \$200 million for each of fiscal years 2020 through 2024 for grant programs to relating to nonpoint source management.	SUPPORT Based on Board-adopted January 2019 Federal Legislative Priorities, including but not limited to watershed principles.	This could benefit Metropolitan and our member agencies by providing a funding source to protect groundwater sources from contamination by nonpoint sources (e.g., contaminates pickup by stormwater runoff).
Source Water Protection	H.R. 1497 (DeFazio, D-OR)	7/1/20: Passed House as part of H.R. 2, the Moving Forward Act.	Water Quality Protection and Job Creation Act of 2019 Amends the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to reauthorize certain water pollution control programs.	SUPPORT Based on Board-adopted January 2019 Federal Legislative Priorities	This bill may benefit Metropolitan and our member agencies by providing a funding source to protect source water quality by improving stormwater management techniques.

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Source Water Protection	H.R.1764 (Garamendi, D-CA)	3/14/19: Referred to the House Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment.	Federal Water Pollution Control Permitting Terms Amends the Federal Water Pollution Control Act with respect to permitting terms.	SUPPORT Based on Board-adopted January 2019 Federal Legislative Priorities	This legislation would provide EPA, along with state counterpart agencies, a clearly-defined new authority to issue an expanded permit term of up to 10 years for public agencies that have demonstrated compliance with existing permit conditions.
Source Water Protection	H.R. 7450 (Crist, D-FL)	7/28/20: Referred to the House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Water, Power and Oceans, and the House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.	Prevent Harmful Algal Blooms Act Directs the Secretary of Commerce to designate National Centers of Excellence in Harmful Algal Bloom Research, Prevention, Response, and Mitigation. Centers must be located in areas impacted by harmful algal blooms. Authorizes \$12.5 million per year for five years for these centers.	SUPPORT Based on Board-adopted January 2020 Federal Legislative Priorities	This legislation would impact Metropolitan and our member agencies. Harmful algal blooms are occurring more frequently in California surface waters, negatively impacting water quality and recreational opportunities at our reservoirs. Designating research institutions and laboratories as National Centers of Excellence would help advance the understanding of harmful algal blooms impacts, prevention, and treatment.
Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (WIIN) Updates	H.R.1162 (Napolitano, D-CA)	7/1/20: Passed House as part of H.R.2, the Moving Forward Act.	Water Recycling Investment and Improvement Act Increases the WIIN Act Title XVI funding authorization appropriations from \$50 million to \$500 million, increases Federal funding cap from \$20 million up to \$30 million (maintain 25% maximum federal cost share), makes the program permanent by removing the WIIN Act Title XVI 2021 expiration date, removes the priority requirement for projects to be in a drought or disaster area, and removes the requirement for projects to be specifically named in appropriation legislation.	SUPPORT Based on Board-adopted January 2019 Federal Legislative Priorities	The potential effects on Metropolitan and our member agencies could be significant with a 10-fold increase in funding. Of the 53 approved Title XVI projects identified on the USBR website, 36 are in California and several are for member agencies. Increased funding could significantly accelerate several proposed regional projects that, once completed, would reduce or offset the need for new imported water supplies.

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Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (WIIN) Updates	S.1932 (Gardner, R-CO)	7/18/19: Hearing held before the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Subcommittee on Water and Power.	<p>Drought Resiliency and Water Supply Infrastructure Act</p> <p>Supports water infrastructure in Reclamation states. Extends and enhances many provisions of the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act (WIIN) Act by removing the WIIN Act Title XVI expiration date, authorizing increased appropriations for the Title XVI funding, increasing the federal funding cap from \$20 million to \$30 million for Title XVI and establishing a process to de-authorize inactive recycling projects. Enhances funding for surface and groundwater storage projects, with an authorization of appropriations of \$670 million, and establishes the “Reclamation Infrastructure Finance Innovation Act” (RIFIA), a low-cost financing tool administered by the Bureau of Reclamation.</p>	<p>SUPPORT</p> <p>Based on Board-adopted January 2019 Federal Legislative Priorities</p>	<p>The legislation builds on Senator Feinstein’s California drought resilient approaches in the 2016 Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (WIIN) Act to improve the nation’s water supply and drought resiliency. By authorizing significant new funding and creating innovative financing tools, this bill enables adaptive and locally responsive water management for Metropolitan and our member agencies. The creation of RIFIA, a new source of low-cost financing, could be of potential benefit for recycled water projects within the service area.</p>

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Water Project Authorizations	H.R. 1435 (Garamendi, D-CA)	3/15/19: Referred to the House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Water, Oceans and Wildlife.	Sites Reservoir Project Act Directs the Secretary of the Interior to take actions supporting non-Federal investments in water infrastructure improvements in the Sacramento Valley. Sites Reservoir would capture and store water north of the Delta for environmental, agricultural and municipal uses.	SUPPORT IF AMENDED Based on Board-adopted January 2019 Federal Legislative Priorities	If Sites Reservoir is constructed, it is imperative for the operations to be integrated with both the CVP and the SWP and be consistent with the terms of the existing Coordinated Operating Agreement. H.R.1435 calls for coordinated operations of the CVP and the Sites project but omits reference to the State Water Project. Metropolitan is seeking an amendment to specify and require continued coordination between CVP and SWP facilities to maximize water supply benefits from Sites Reservoir for both projects.
Water Project Authorizations	H.R. 5316 (Cox, D-CA)	7/1/20: Passed House as part of H.R. 2, the Moving Forward Act.	Move Water Now Act Provides for the restoration of the original carrying capacity of canals impacted by land subsidence. The bill authorizes the appropriation of \$200 million for fiscal years 2020 through 2023 for the acceleration and completion of repairs to Reclamation water conveyance facilities; where the Federal cost share for such repairs is no more than 50 percent. It would also appropriate \$200 million for implementation of the San Joaquin River Restoration Settlement Act.	SUPPORT IF AMENDED Based on Board-adopted 2020 Federal Legislative Priorities and Principles	This bill is written to fix subsidence along the Friant-Kern canal. Metropolitan is seeking an amendment to ensure that the State Water Project would also be eligible for funding.

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Water Project Authorizations	H.R. 5752 (Costa, D-CA)	2/12/20: Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.	Conveyance Capacity Correction Act Provides for restoration of the original carrying capacity of water conveyance facilities impacted by land subsidence.	SUPPORT Based on Board-adopted February 2020 Federal Legislative Priorities	This legislation would authorize \$400 million to fund the initiation, acceleration, or completion of repairs to the Delta-Mendota Canal and California Aqueduct to restore conveyance capacity lost due to subsidence, which could benefit Metropolitan and our member agencies.
Water Project Authorizations	S. 3811 (Feinstein, D-CA)	5/21/20: Referred to the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee	Restoration of Essential Conveyance Act Authorizes \$800 million in federal funding to repair critical canals in the San Joaquin Valley damaged by land sinking from subsidence and for environmental restoration.	SUPPORT Based on Board-adopted January 2019 Federal Legislative Priorities	Metropolitan would benefit from the funding available for repairing the California Aqueduct.