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April 16, 2015

The Honorable Das Williams  
Chair, Assembly Natural Resources Committee  
1020 N Street, Room 164  
Sacramento, CA 94249

**RE: Support for AB 1242 (Gray): *Proposal requiring the State Water Resources Control Board to implement mitigation measures for adverse impacts by proposed Water Quality Control Plans.***

Dear Assemblymember Williams,

On behalf of the Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District (GCID), I write to express our **strong support** for AB 1242 (Gray). The State Water Resources Control Board is considering a proposal to develop new unimpaired flow requirements on the Tuolumne, Merced, and Stanislaus rivers. The proposed plan would require at least an additional 350,000 acre-feet of water annually to be diverted from the rivers to flow out to San Francisco Bay Delta.

If adopted, the Board's proposal will impede groundwater basins surface water recharge opportunities and eliminate surface water deliveries to domestic and agricultural water users. The Board recognizes these impacts would have significant "but unavoidable" adverse impacts to the region.

In 2014, the Legislature passed the Sustainability Groundwater Management Act which promised to empower local communities with the tools to achieve sustainable management goals. The adoption of the Board's proposal without mitigating measures would deny one of the most important tools in that tool box: the ability to recharge the depleted groundwater table with surface flows.

AB 1242 will ensure that the Board consider and mitigate the adverse impact of any new water quality control plan. It would also require the Board to implement mitigation measures to reduce identified significant adverse impacts, and would prohibit the adoption of plans with adverse impacts that cannot be sufficiently mitigated.

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It is for these reasons that **GCID strongly supports AB 1242**. Thank you for your consideration of our concerns. We respectfully request *your* support of AB 1242.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Thaddeus L. Bettner". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Thaddeus L. Bettner, P.E.  
General Manager

cc: Assemblymember Gray