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Legislative Advocates

Chris Frahm Rosanna Carvacho Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck June 24, 2014

The Honorable Fran Pavley Chair, Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee State Capitol, Room 4035 Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: AB 1739 (Dickinson) - SUPPORT IN CONCEPT

Dear Senator Pavley:

On behalf of the California Groundwater Coalition ("CGC"), I am writing to express our general support for AB 1739 (Dickinson) that addresses improving groundwater management in the state of California. CGC's members include public and private water suppliers who rely upon groundwater to help meet the water supply needs of millions of California residents and sustain our economy. The Coalition was formed at the urging of California state and local elected officials to increase efforts to educate and inform policy makers and the public about California's groundwater resources and the role groundwater plays in providing a safe and reliable water supply for California.

CGC's members recognize the serious challenges that the state is facing with the drought, widespread groundwater depletion, areas of land surface subsidence, and groundwater quality deterioration. CGC member agencies are currently managing groundwater basins throughout the state. Given the first-hand experience our members have we are able to provide a unique perspective in the discussions and look forward to working with all parties to craft legislation that will ensure that California's groundwater basins are managed responsibly throughout the state.

We appreciate the monumental strides that Assemblymember Dickinson has made in developing the current draft of AB 1739 to overhaul groundwater management. CGC currently supports the concept of better groundwater governance outlined in the bill, but we have some concerns that we feel are necessary to address. We therefore support the bill moving forward with a request for a commitment from the author to work with CGC on the details of the bill.

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If you have any questions regarding our position on this measure, please do not hesitate to contact me or our Legislative Advocates Chris Frahm or Rosanna Carvacho at 916-594-9700.

Sincerely,

Ken Manning

President, California Groundwater Coalition

cc: Members, Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee

The Honorable Roger Dickinson