



March 14, 2022

The Honorable Henry Stern  
Chair, Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee  
1020 O Street, Room 3220  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Re: SB 1197 (Caballero) Water Innovation and Drought Resiliency Act of 2022 - SUPPORT**

Dear Chair Stern,

WaterReuse California is pleased to support SB 1197 (Caballero), the Water Innovation and Drought Resiliency Act of 2022. WaterReuse CA is the trade association that represents a majority of the state's water recycling agencies.

By the end of this century the state estimates the Sierra Nevada snowpack, which provides about 60 percent of the state's drinking water, will experience a 48 to 65 percent loss from its historical spring average. This stark reality adds to the other impacts of drought and ongoing issues for water systems including aging infrastructure, groundwater contamination, subsidence, and numerous ecological concerns. Given the magnitude of these challenges, innovative approaches are key to ensuring the long-term sustainability and drought resiliency of our water supply.

SB 1197 creates the Initiative to Advance Water Innovation and Drought Resiliency at the Governor's Office of Planning and Research for the furtherance of new technologies and other innovative approaches in the water sector, and how these actions can help create a drought resilient economy in California. Among other things, this initiative would increase collaboration among state agencies on innovative approaches, engage stakeholders, and review regulations that may limit or inhibit innovation or drought resiliency. It would establish the state as a partner in the development and deployment of new technologies that can help advance sustainability and achieve the state's goal of a Human Right to Water for all Californians.

For these reasons, we support SB 1197 and encourage your support of the measure when the bill comes before your committee. Please contact Jennifer West at [jwest@waterreuse.org](mailto:jwest@waterreuse.org) should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jennifer West". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jennifer West  
Managing Director

Cc: The Honorable Anna Caballero  
Dennis O'Connor, Chief Consultant, Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee  
Todd Moffitt, Policy Consultant, Senate Republican Caucus