



COACHELLA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

Established in 1918 as a public agency

GENERAL MANAGER
Jim Barrett

ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER
Robert Cheng

CLERK OF THE BOARD
Sylvia Bermudez

ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER
Dan Charlton

August 29, 2024

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Governor of California
1021 O Street, Suite 9000
Sacramento, California 95814

RE: **AB 2257 - SUPPORT**

Dear Governor Newsom:

The Coachella Valley Water District (CVWD) serves approximately 300,000 residents in its 1,000 square-mile service area. CVWD is pleased to support Assembly Bill (AB) 2257 which establishes that ratepayers must exhaust all administrative remedies before they can file a lawsuit challenging new or increased fees or assessments imposed by a local agency under Proposition 218.

This legislation would enhance the public notification and public comment procedures for fees and assessments regulated by Proposition 218 to ensure early public input can be considered and addressed as part of the ratemaking process. Additionally, AB 2257 establishes that ratepayers must exhaust all administrative remedies to contest a new or increased fee or assessment to be eligible to bring a lawsuit contesting the fee or assessment. As a public agency, CVWD supports procedures designed to amplify transparency for ratepayers while providing finality in the ratemaking process for local agencies.

For these reasons, CVWD is pleased to support AB 2257.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. M. Barrett', written over a blue horizontal line.

J. M. Barrett
General Manager
Coachella Valley Water District

Cc: Hon. Lori D. Wilson