



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

September 8, 2025

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Governor, State of California
1021 O Street, Room 9000
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: SB 72 (Caballero) The California Water Plan: long-term supply targets –
REQUEST FOR SIGNATURE**

Dear Governor Newsom,

The Coachella Valley Water District (CVWD) requests your signature on SB 72. California is in a race against climate change, which is pressured by multi-year droughts, floods, fires, and other intensifying climate change impacts. Consequently, there is an urgent need for California to develop aspirational targets that will complement and amplify your Water Supply Strategy and extend beyond any single Administration. Given the extreme climate impacts of the 21st century, an expanding economy, a growing population, the anticipated reductions from existing water resources, and the controls on the use of groundwater, California needs to align the state's water supply strategy and policies with a target that will result in an adequate and reliable water supply for all beneficial uses including the environment, agriculture, the economy, and all Californians. SB 72 is the solution to address the challenges facing California.

SB 72 will bring the fundamental changes that are necessary to ensure a sustainable water future. SB 72 will do the following:

- Transform water management in California, taking us from a perpetual state of supply vulnerability to a reliable and sufficient water supply that is adequate for all beneficial uses, including urban, agriculture, and the environment.
- Create a new “North Star” water supply planning target for 2040 that the state will need to work toward, along with a process to develop a target for 2050.
- Preserve the California way of life, supplying water to our homes and communities, habitat and environment, recreation and tourism, and business and economic success.
- Support economic vitality for all businesses, from restaurants to technology companies, and employers that depend on a reliable water supply.

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Governor, State of California
September 8, 2025
Page 2

- Fulfill the generational responsibility to develop a water system that will adapt to changes in the environment and allow the state to thrive now and for future generations.

The California Water Plan is a strategic plan for managing and developing water resources for current and future generations in the state. SB 72 works within the structure of the current California Water Plan, which hasn't been meaningfully updated for decades. SB 72 updates the California Water Plan for a 21st-century climate.

The Coachella Valley Water District is pleased to support SB 72, which will implement a long-term plan for meeting California's future water supply needs. CVWD serves approximately 300,000 residents in its 1,000 square miles of service area, ranging from the San Geronio Pass to the Salton Sea, mostly within the Coachella Valley area of Riverside County, including small areas within Imperial and San Diego counties.

For these reasons, we respectfully request your signature on SB 72. If you have any questions about our position, please contact Karen Borja at kborja@cvwd.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. M. Barrett". The signature is stylized and written in cursive.

J. M. Barrett
General Manager

cc: Senator Anna Caballero