



May 15, 2013

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MAY 17 2013

BY: _____

Bighorn-Desert View Water Agency
Attn.: Pres. Michael McBride
622 S. Jemez Trail
Yucca Valley, CA 92284

Re: SB 246 (Fuller) sponsored by Bighorn-Desert View Water Agency

Dear Honorable Jean Fuller;

This letter acknowledges Hi Desert Water District's support for SB 246 (Fuller) which was introduced in early February and further amended in April 2013. As of this letter, we understand that SB 246 has unanimously passed through the Senate and will soon be introduced to the Assembly. Congratulations!

As we understand it, this bill does not significantly alter the duties and responsibilities, or the power and authority, of the Bighorn-Desert View Water Agency; rather, this legislation is proposed for the exclusive purpose of eliminating outdated and irrelevant provisions, and reorganizing the Act to assist staff, the agency's officials and the public by making the Act easier to understand, and more transparent.

We support SB 246 for the following reasons:

- The current Water Agency Law is outdated because it does not reflect important additions to the California Constitution, such as Articles 13A, B, C and D, which affect the Board of Director's authority to enact taxes and adopt water rates; and
- The original Law is not well organized, thereby reducing its usefulness as a reference for Agency staff, public officials and the general public; and
- The requirement to keep the two water systems financially separate works against the economic savings that consolidation was expected to bring to the rate payers.

Following review of the April 2013 SB 246 amendment(s) we offer our support for the bill and its sponsor, the Bighorn-Desert View Water Agency.

Sincerely,

Roger Mayes, President of the Board

