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June 27, 2007

Assembly Member Lois Wolk, Chair
Assembly Water, Parks and Wildlife Committee
State Capitol, Room 3120
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: SB 178 (Steinberg) -SUPPORT

Dear Assembly Member Wolk:

The Groundwater Resources Association (GRA) supports Senate Bill 178 by Senator Darrell Steinberg relating to groundwater.

One of the primary objectives of the Groundwater Resources Association (GRA) is to help formulate statewide policy on the development, management, and protection of the state's vital groundwater water resources. With this core mission in mind, and on behalf of our more than 1,200 professional members located across the State of California, we are pleased to write in support of SB178.

SB 178 would establish a groundwater monitoring program to determine groundwater elevations, improve existing monitoring programs and where no monitoring program is currently in place; the bill would authorize the Department of Water Resources to work with stakeholders to develop a monitoring program. The bill also requires DWR to produce a report regarding the status of California's groundwater basins.

GRA strongly believes that the requirements outlined in SB 178 will help the State manage its water needs. The monitoring and information gathering required in SB 178 is essential to determining the State's water assets as funding decisions are considered by the Legislature.

GRA respectfully requests the support of the Assembly Water, Parks and Wildlife Committee for this important legislation.

Assembly Member Lois Wolk, Chair

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Sincerely,

Paul S. Bauer
Legislative Affairs Advocate
For HATCH & PARENT
A Law Corporation

cc: Senator Darrell Steinberg
Members and Consultants, Assembly Water, Parks and Wildlife Committee