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Rosanna Carvacho Elliott
Clear Advocacy

April 29, 2021

The Honorable Bob Wieckowski
Chair, Senate Subcommittee 2
State Capitol, Room 5019
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Richard Bloom
Chair, Assembly Subcommittee 3
State Capitol, Room 6026
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Sustainable Groundwater Management Funding – SUPPORT

Dear Chairs Wieckowski and Bloom:

On behalf of the California Groundwater Coalition (CGC), I write to express support for the Governor's budget proposal to provide \$60 million to continue implementation of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA).

CGC was formed at the urging of California state and local officials who believed that increased efforts were needed to educate and inform policy makers and the public about California's groundwater resources. CGC members include public and private groundwater management entities located throughout California and consist of experts with technical, legal, and professional groundwater and related expertise.

As you know, SGMA requires the formation of Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) in high and medium-priority basins and requires critically over-drafted basins be managed by a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) by January 2022. CGC was instrumental in the drafting and passage of SGMA and is committed to seeing implementation of this critical state policy through until our groundwater basins reach sustainability. The Governor's budget requests \$60 million to provide grants to GSAs within critically over-drafted basins to support their local planning and implementation of GSPs.

CGC supports additional state investments that will help local agencies bring their groundwater pumping and recharge into balance. This funding request is just a drop in the bucket of what will be necessary to ensure long-term sustainability of California's groundwater basins, especially since this additional funding is only for critically overdrafted basins.

For these reasons, CGC supports the Governor's budget proposal to provide the Department of Water Resources with \$60 million to support the local planning and implementation of GSPs across critically over-drafted basins and respectfully requests that this proposal be adopted in the 2021-22 state budget.

If you have questions about CGC's position please contact our Legislative Advocate, Rosanna Carvacho Elliott at 916-812-6519 or rosanna@clearadvocacy.com.

Sincerely,



Ann DuBay
President, California Groundwater Coalition

cc: Honorable Members, Senate Budget Subcommittee 2
Honorable Members, Assembly Budget Subcommittee 3