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Legislative Advocate

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: Groundwater Recharge Technical Assistance – 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 \$2 million for local agencies to plan for groundwater recharge projects.

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.

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. Given our years of experience managing groundwater basins throughout the state we know that this cannot happen without groundwater recharge, which is just one tool in the toolbox for groundwater sustainability agencies.

The Governor's budget requests \$2 million to work with local agencies to holistically plan and assess water availability, conveyance infrastructure, on-farm recharge sites, opportunities for adjusting upstream reservoir operations based on weather forecasts, requirements for environmental river flows, and many other factors. This planning work is critical to the successful implementation of groundwater recharge projects.

For these reasons, CGC supports the Governor's budget proposal to provide \$2 million for local agencies to plan for groundwater recharge projects 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