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Water Replenishment District of So CA

#### Institutional/Educational Membership

Groundwater Resources Assn of CA  
Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory

#### Legislative Advocate

**Rosanna Carvacho**  
Clear Advocacy

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May 2, 2022

The Honorable Chris Holden  
Chair, Assembly Appropriations Committee  
1021 O Street, Room 8220  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: AB 2421 (Rubio) – SUPPORT**

Dear Chairman Holden,

On behalf of the California Groundwater Coalition (CGC), I write to express our support for AB 2421 (Rubio) which will enhance local enforcements authority to prosecute and enjoin water theft and water pollution to combat water theft and illegal cannabis grows.

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 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.

Illegal cannabis grows are a serious, growing threat across rural areas of California. CGC members have seen illicit cannabis cultivators engage in the theft of large amounts of water and create environmental pollution due to the use of illegal pesticides.

AB 2421 authorizes county counsels and city attorneys to civilly prosecute and enjoin water theft and county counsels to civilly prosecute and enjoin water pollution. Removing existing limitations on prosecutorial authority will provide local governments with assistants as they work to stop water theft and pollution that is polluting our limited groundwater supplies, rendering the water unfit for drinking.

For these reasons, CGC is in support of AB 2421 and respectfully requests your “AYE” vote when this bill comes before you. If you have questions about CGC’s position please contact our Legislative Advocate, Rosanna Carvacho Elliott at 916-479-7400 or [rosanna@clearadvocacy.com](mailto:rosanna@clearadvocacy.com).

Sincerely,

Ann DuBay  
President, California Groundwater Coalition

The Honorable Chris Holden

May 2, 2022

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cc: The Honorable Blanca Rubio  
Honorable Members, Assembly Appropriations Committee