

## SUMMARY FOR SEPTEMBER 2024

### Office of Government Relations



### FEDERAL ADVOCACY EFFORTS

#### Staff Leads Tour of Upper Llagas Creek Project for NRCS Officials

On September 13, following the press conference announcing an \$80M grant award from the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) for the Upper Llagas Creek Project, the Office of Government Relations (OGR) and the project team hosted officials from NRCS for a tour of Lake Silveira and Reach 7a of the project. Project staff provided an overview of the project features and benefits, and OGR staff discussed the need for additional dollars to fill the project's funding gap.



*September 13: Project staff providing a project overview for NRCS officials.*

### STATE ADVOCACY EFFORTS

#### Governor Takes Action on Key Legislation

The California Constitution requires the Governor to take action by September 30 on all bills passed by the Legislature in the second year of the two-year legislative session, or the bill will become law without the Governor's signature. This year, the Governor started September with more than 1,000 bills pending his action, 15 on which the Valley Water Board has taken a position. Fourteen of those bills were signed into law and one, SB 366 (Caballero) California Water Plan Long-term Water Supply Targets, was vetoed by the Governor who cited state costs amid budget shortfalls.

AB 2875 (Friedman) State Wetlands Policy was signed into law with amendments negotiated by staff to help prevent the loss of habitat due to inundation from sea level rise and other impacts associated with climate change. AB 2501 (Alvarez) Donations to the State Water Boards for Expedited Permitting was signed into law, enabling Valley Water to continue to pay for a staff person at the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board who is dedicated to working on Valley Water project permitting. A list of bills active in September and on which the Board has taken a position is included with their final outcomes at the end of this monthly update.

### LOCAL ADVOCACY AND ENGAGEMENT EFFORTS

#### Tour of Anderson Dam with Second Group of 2024 Leadership Morgan Hill Class

On September 18, Valley Water staff hosted additional members of the Leadership Morgan Hill's 2024 class on a tour of the Anderson Dam Seismic Retrofit Project site. The group was taken to the top of the dam to see the project's progress from above, where staff provided an overview of the project, shared the latest developments, and answered questions from the group.



*September 18: Members of the 2024 Leadership Morgan Hill Class at Anderson Dam.*

#### Valley Water Kicks Off Fall with Community Booths

Staff kicked off Fall with several community events to educate the public about Valley Water's resources, programs, and projects. Staff interacted with community members and families by using the water wheel to ask trivia questions, and also provided information on water conservation, rebates, and climate resilience.



*September 14: Staff educating local law enforcement on Valley Water projects, programs, and resources at the Children's Moon Festival.*

### LOOKING AHEAD

- OCT 05 City of Saratoga State of the City Address Table
- OCT 05 Santa Clara County Parks Fall Festival Booth
- OCT 12 Guadalupe River Park Conservancy Pumpkins in the Park Booth
- OCT 26 Sunnyvale Festival of Lights Diwali Booth

## Federal Legislation Active in September 2024 with Board-Approved Positions

Bill (Author)	Subject	Position	Status
S. 24 (Feinstein) / H.R. 516 (Lieu)	Fighting Homelessness Through Services and Housing Act	Support and Amend	Introduced
H.R. 186 (McClintock)	Water Supply Permitting Coordination Act	Support	Introduced
H.R. 872 (Calvert)	Federally Integrated Species Health (FISH) Act	Support	Introduced
H.R. 2419 (Costa) / S. 2161 (Feinstein)	Canal Conveyance Capacity Restoration Act	Support	H.R. 2419 Introduced; S. 2161 Heard in Committee
S. 2162 (Feinstein)	Support To Rehydrate the Environment, Agriculture, and Municipalities (STREAM) Act	Support and Amend	Heard in Committee
S. 2202 (Feinstein)	Restore Aging Infrastructure Now (RAIN) Act	Support and Amend	Heard in Committee
S. 1430 (Lummis)	Water Systems PFAS Liability Protection Act	Support	Introduced
H.R. 2671 (Costa)	Restoring WIFIA Eligibility Act	Support	Introduced
H.R. 1367 (Schakowsky) / S. 660 (Markey)	Water System Threat Preparedness and Resilience Act of 2023	Support	Introduced
S. 919 (Duckworth)	A Donald McEachin Environmental Justice For All Act	Support	Introduced
H.R. 873 (Donalds)	Water Quality and Environmental Innovation Act	Support	Introduced
H.R. 1729 (Watson Coleman) / S. 938 (Sanders)	Water Affordability, Transparency, Equity, and Reliability Act	Support	Introduced
H.R. 1708 (Jayapal)	Housing Is a Human Right Act of 2023	Support and Amend	Introduced
H.R. 3896 (Cohen)	Airport Infrastructure Resilience Act of 2023	Support	Introduced
S. 2203 (Padilla)	Atmospheric Rivers Reconnaissance, Observation, and Warning (ARROW) Act	Support	Introduced
S. 2166 (Padilla)	Voluntary Agricultural Land Repurposing Act	Support	Heard in Committee
S. 2148 (Markey)	Local Infrastructure Funding and Technical Assistance (LIFT) Act	Support	Introduced
H.R. 4052 (Davis)	National Infrastructure Bank Act of 2023	Support	Introduced
S. 2654 (Padilla) / H.R. 5016 (Levin)	Water Efficiency, Conservation, and Sustainability Act	Support	Introduced
H.R. 5254 (Lieu)	Housing for All Act of 2023	Support and Amend	Introduced
H.R. 5104 (Edwards)	National Dam Safety Program Reauthorization Act of 2023	Support	Introduced

## Federal Legislation Active in September 2024 with Board-Approved Positions (cont'd)

Bill (Author)	Subject	Position	Status
S. 2250 (Bennet) / H.R. 4902 (Caraveo)	Voluntary Groundwater Conservation Act of 2023	Support	Introduced
H.R. 5304 (Harder)	Safeguarding Our Levees Act	Support	Introduced
H.R. 3490 (Gallego)	Water Infrastructure Modernization Act of 2023	Support	Introduced
H.R. 6093 (Lucas)	Weather Research and Forecasting Innovation Reauthorization (WEATHER) Act of 2023	Support and Amend	Reported by Committee
H.R. 3655 (Swalwell)	Preventing Our Next Natural Disaster Act	Support	Introduced
S. 3830 (Padilla)	Low-Income Household Water Assistance Program Establishment Act	Support and Amend	Introduced
S. 3292 (Whitehouse)	Innovative Materials for America's Growth and Infrastructure Newly Expanded (IMAGINE) Act of 2023	Support and Amend	Introduced
H.R. 5793 (Dingell)	Water Access Act	Support	Introduced
H.R. 8682 (Huffman)	Water Conservation Rebate Tax Parity Act	Support	Drafted
H.R. 7525 (Fallon)	Special District Grant Accessibility Act	Support	Reported by Committee
H.R. 7990 (Napolitano)	Large-Scale Water Recycling Reauthorization and Reinvestment Act of 2024	Support	Introduced
H.R. 8032 (Sorensen)	Low-Income Household Water Assistance Program Establishment Act	Support and Amend	Introduced
H.R. 4247 (Harder)	Flood Prevention and Snowpack Management Act	Support and Amend	Introduced
H.R. 8030 (Peters)	Drought Relief Obtained Using Government Help Today (DROUGHT) Act of 2024	Support	Introduced
H.R. 7922 (Crawford)	To establish a Water Risk and Resilience Organization to develop risk and resilience requirements for the water sector	Support	Introduced
H.R. 4018 (Costa)	Headwaters Protection Act of 2023	Support	Introduced
S. 4367 (Carper) / H.R. 8812 (Graves)	Water Resources Development Act of 2024	Support and Amend	H.R. 8812 Passed House; S. 4367 Passed Committee

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## State Legislation Active in September 2024 with Board-Approved Positions

Bill (Author)	Subject	Position	Status
AB 460 (Bauer-Kahan)	Civil Penalties for Water Rights Violations	Support	Signed by the Governor
AB 1581 (Kalra)	Restoration Management Permit Act	Support	Signed by the Governor
AB 1785 (Pacheco)	California Public Records Act	Support	Signed by the Governor
AB 1827 (Papan)	Low Water User Protection Act	Support	Signed by the Governor
AB 2257 (Wilson)	Property-Related Water and Sewer Fees and Assessments	Support	Signed by the Governor
AB 2302 (Addis)	Teleconferenced Open Meetings for Local Agencies	Support	Signed by the Governor
AB 2501 (Alvarez)	State and Regional Water Boards: Donations	Support	Signed by the Governor
AB 2655 (Berman)	Defending Democracy from Deepfake Deception Act	Support	Signed by the Governor
AB 2661 (Soria)	Westlands Water District Solar Generation	Support	Signed by the Governor
AB 2682 (Kalra)	Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority	Support	Signed by the Governor
AB 2875 (Friedman)	State Wetlands Policy	Support	Signed by the Governor
SB 366 (Caballero)	The California Water Plan: Long-Term Supply Targets	Support	Vetoed by the Governor
SB 1395 (Becker)	Interim Housing Act	Support	Signed by the Governor