

**MWD**

METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

April 5, 1993

To: Board of Directors (Special Committee on Legislation--Information)
(Water Problems Committee--Information)

From: Assistant General Manager

Subject: Senate Constitutional Amendment 11

Report

Senator Ruben Ayala introduced Senate Constitutional Amendment (SCA) 11 on February 25, 1993, which if passed, would require two-thirds vote of each house of the legislature in order to repeal area of origin water protection laws including the Areas of Origin, Counties of Origin, Watershed Protection and Delta Protection Act statutes. Each of these laws provides protection to the areas in which water originates by allowing only water surplus to the reasonable consumptive needs of these areas to be exported.

Metropolitan has opposed legislation similar to SCA 11 in the past when it has been introduced unrelated to additional water supply improvement legislation. However, Metropolitan has supported such legislation when it has been part of a comprehensive water legislation package. In particular, Assembly Constitutional Amendment (ACA) 90, approved in 1980 by the voters of California, was supported by Metropolitan because it was tied to the Senate Bill (SB) 200 water supply improvement legislation. ACA 90 was never enacted because it required passage of Proposition 9 (the SB 200 referendum initiative) which was defeated in 1982. If enacted, ACA 90 would have strengthened the existing Delta Protection Act by preventing any repeal unless approved by a majority vote of the electorate.

SCA 11 is a similar type bill to ACA 90, however it is more inclusive in that it would apply to several area of origin protection statutes rather than just one, and would require two-thirds vote of the legislature to repeal these statutes rather than majority vote of the electorate. Also, SCA 11 is not tied to any water supply improvement legislation.

Board Committee Assignments

This letter is referred for information to:

The Special Committee on Legislation because it involves a legislative matter that may affect the District, pursuant to Administrative Code Section 2581, subdivision(a); and

The Water Problems Committee because of its authority to study, advise and make recommendations with regard to policies, sources, and means of importing water required by the District, pursuant to Administrative Code Section 2481(a).

Recommendation

For information only.


Richard W. Balcerzak

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