

**MWD**

METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

April 5, 1993

To: Board of Directors (Executive Committee--Action)  
 (Special Committee on Legislation--Action)  
 From: Assistant General Manager  
 Subject: Support of Assembly Bill 2272 (Martinez, Moore)

### Report

Assembly Bill (A.B.) 2272 was introduced by Assembly Member Martinez on March 5, 1993, and was coauthored by Assembly Member Moore. This legislation would require the Department of Water Resources (DWR) to submit to the Legislature copies of any contract or contract amendments for the sale, delivery, or use of water, power, other services, or facilities made available by the State Water Resources Development System [State Water Project (SWP)], not less than 30 days before the contract or amendments become effective. This would apply specifically to contracts or amendments that affect the rates or charges for SWP water.

Staff recommended to the Special Committee on Legislation that this bill be opposed because another step is added in the chain of completing agreements and, unless care is taken in some cases, the timing of reaching agreement could be critical to success. However, staff also recognized there were beneficial effects of such legislation related to opening further to public inspection the process of public agency decision-making. Your Board committee supported the benefits to the public process seen in this bill and instructed staff to communicate with the author for additional background information. Metropolitan staff met with the Assembly members' legislative staff in Sacramento and learned that the authors' goals center on achieving public decision-making in a more open fashion. The Assembly members' legislative staff indicated a willingness to accept changes to improve the effectiveness of the bill. Metropolitan staff will continue to work with the Assembly members' legislative staff and others effected regarding (1) the scope of possible amendments to this bill and (2) the forum through which notification about such contracts or contract amendments is made.

April 5, 1993

Committee Assignments

This letter is referred for action to:

The Executive Committee because it involves legislation which may affect the District, pursuant to Administrative Code Section 2417(a); and

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

Recommendation

**EXECUTIVE AND COMMITTEE AND SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATION FOR ACTION.**

It is recommended that Metropolitan support Assembly Bill 2272 (Martinez, Moore).

  
Richard W. Balcerzak