

Express support for AB 741 (Huffman, D—San Rafael) - Onsite wastewater disposal

Legislation Committee

May 10, 2011

Item 8-12

Summary of AB 741

- Sponsored by the Irvine Ranch Water District
- Allows property owners to voluntarily enter into agreements with local wastewater agencies to finance needed septic and sewer improvements
- Financed via assessment districts using public funding
- Repaid via liens on the property over time

Application of AB 741

- Public waste water agencies
- Defined to include: “counties, cities and counties, cities, sanitary districts, county sanitation districts, county service areas, sewer maintenance districts, and other public corporations and districts authorized to acquire, construct, maintain and operate sanitary sewers and sewerage systems”
- Applies to several member agencies, but not Metropolitan

Benefits of AB 741

- Provide property owners with incentive to upgrade septic and sewer systems
- Prevent groundwater contamination
- Protect water quality, the environment, and public health and safety
- Consistent with prior initiatives to fund solar and water use efficiency improvements via public funding and voluntary contractual assessments
- Consistent with Metropolitan's groundwater management and water conservation policies

Support for AB 741

- Municipal Water District of Orange County
- Three Valleys Municipal Water District
- Association of California Water Agencies
- Numerous other drinking and waste water agencies statewide
- There is no formal opposition to the bill

Support for AB 741

- Staff recommendation
 - Option #1
 - Adopt CEQA
 - Support bill