



Express support for H.R. 1278
(Capps, D-California) – Water
Infrastructure Resiliency and Sustainability
Act of 2015

Communications and Legislation Committee

Item 8-8

June 8, 2015

H.R. 1278 (Capps)

- U.S. EPA would develop new grant program
 - \$250M proposed budget, allocated in \$50M allotments over 5 fiscal years (2016-2020)
 - Competitive grant program designed for water system adaptation to hydrologic changes
 - Broad categories of eligibility, including:
 - Water Supply
 - Wastewater
 - Stormwater
 - Watersheds

Background

- H.R. 1278 is a reintroduction of legislation previously supported by MWD
 - MWD supported H.R. 765 (Capps) of 2013-14
 - MWD supported H.R. 2738 (Capps) of 2011-12
- Authors' Intent:
 - Responding to hydrologic changes related to climate change
 - Building water system resiliency
 - Conserving water, enhancing water use efficiency
 - Administrator Priority: “water systems at greatest and most immediate risk of facing significant negative impacts due to changing hydrologic conditions”

Analysis

- Aligns with MWD adopted 2015 Legislative Strategy
- Aligns with MWD Global Climate Change and Water Resources Policy (2002)
- Offers potential opportunities for MWD & Member Agencies to participate in grant program
- H.R. 1278 is supported by:
 - ACWA
 - NRDC
 - AMWA
 - American Rivers
 - CASA
 - NACWA(Partial List)

Options

- Option 1
 - Adopt the CEQA determination and authorize the General Manager to express support for H.R. 1278
- Option 2
 - Take no position

Staff Recommendation

- Option 1

