



**COMMUNITY AND LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS  
COMMITTEE MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
INLAND EMPIRE UTILITIES AGENCY\***

**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12, 2020  
9:00 A.M.**

**INLAND EMPIRE UTILITIES AGENCY\*  
VIEW THE MEETING LIVE ONLINE AT IEUA.ORG  
TELEPHONE ACCESS: (415) 856-9169 / Conf Code: 670 582 351#**

PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF EXECUTIVE ORDER N-25-20 ISSUED BY GOVERNOR GAVIN NEWSOM ON MARCH 12, 2020, AND EXECUTIVE ORDER N-29-20 ISSUED BY GOVERNOR GAVIN NEWSOM ON MARCH 17, 2020 AND IN AN EFFORT TO PROTECT PUBLIC HEALTH AND PREVENT THE SPREAD OF COVID-19, THERE WILL NO PUBLIC LOCATION FOR ATTENDING IN PERSON.

The public may participate and provide public comment during the meeting by dialing into the number provided above. Alternatively, you may email your public comments to the Interim Board Secretary/Office Manager Laura Mantilla at [lmantilla@ieua.org](mailto:lmantilla@ieua.org) no later than 24 hours prior to the scheduled meeting time. Your comments will then be read into the record during the meeting.

**CALL TO ORDER**

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Members of the public may address the Board on any item that is within the jurisdiction of the Board; however, no action may be taken on any item not appearing on the agenda unless the action is otherwise authorized by Subdivision (b) of Section 54954.2 of the Government Code. Those persons wishing to address the Board on any matter, whether or not it appears on the agenda, are requested to email the Board Secretary no later than 24 hours prior to the scheduled meeting time or address the Board during the public comments section of the meeting. Comments will be limited to three minutes per speaker. Thank you.

**ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA**

In accordance with Section 54954.2 of the Government Code (Brown Act), additions to the agenda require two-thirds vote of the legislative body, or, if less than two-thirds of the members are present, a unanimous vote of those members present, that there is a need to take immediate action and that the need for action came to the attention of the local agency subsequent to the agenda being posted.

**1. ACTION ITEMS**

**A. MINUTES**

The Committee will be asked to approve the July 8, 2020 Community and Legislative Affairs Committee meeting minutes.

**B. RECOMMEND SUPPORT FOR HR 7073, SPECIAL DISTRICTS PROVIDE ESSENTIAL SERVICES ACT**

Staff recommends that the Committee/Board adopt a “Support” position for HR 7073, the Special Districts Provide Essential Services Act.

**C. APPROVAL OF CIVIC PUBLICATIONS CONTRACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020/21**

Staff recommends that the Committee/Board:

1. Approve a contract for Civic Publications for a total not-to-exceed contract amount of \$45,000 through June 30, 2021; and
2. Authorize the General Manager to execute the contract subject to non-substantive changes.

**2. INFORMATION ITEMS**

**A. ADOPT A POSITION OF “OPPOSE UNLESS AMENDED” ON AB 3030 (KALRA) RESOURCE CONSERVATION: LAND AND OCEAN CONSERVATION GOALS, AS AMENDED JULY 21, 2020 (WRITTEN)**

**B. PUBLIC OUTREACH AND COMMUNICATION (WRITTEN)**

**C. STATE LEGISLATIVE REPORT AND MATRIX – WEST COAST ADVISORS (WRITTEN)**

**D. FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE REPORT AND MATRIX – INNOVATIVE FEDERAL STRATEGIES (WRITTEN)**

**E. CALIFORNIA STRATEGIES MONTHLY REPORT (WRITTEN)**

**3. GENERAL MANAGER’S COMMENTS**


**4. COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS**

**5. COMMITTEE MEMBER REQUESTED FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

**6. ADJOURN**

**7. A Municipal Water District**

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the Interim Board Secretary (909-993-1944), 48 hours prior to the scheduled meeting so that the Agency can make reasonable arrangements.

Proofed by: 

**DECLARATION OF POSTING**

I, Laura Mantilla, Interim Board Secretary/Office Manager of the Inland Empire Utilities Agency, A Municipal Water District, hereby certify that a copy of this agenda has been posted by 5:30 p.m. in the foyer at the Agency's main office, 6075 Kimball Avenue, Building A, Chino on Thursday, August 6, 2020.



Laura Mantilla

ACTION  
ITEM  
1A



**MINUTES  
COMMUNITY AND LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS  
COMMITTEE MEETING  
INLAND EMPIRE UTILITIES AGENCY\*  
AGENCY HEADQUARTERS, CHINO, CA**

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 8, 2020  
9:00 A.M.**

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT via Teleconference**

Steven J. Elie, Chair  
Kati Parker

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT**

None

**STAFF PRESENT**

Shivaji Deshmukh, General Manager  
Laura Mantilla, Interim Board Secretary/Office Manager  
Daniel Solorzano, Technology Specialist I

**STAFF PRESENT via Teleconference**

Kathy Besser, Executive Manager of External Affairs & Policy Development/AGM  
Christiana Daisy, Executive Manager of Engineering/AGM  
Randy Lee, Executive Manager of Operations/AGM  
Christina Valencia, Executive Manager of Finance & Administration/AGM  
Jerry Burke, Manager of Engineering  
Andrea Carruthers, Manager of External Affairs  
Don Hamlett, Acting Deputy Manager of Integrated Systems Services  
Jennifer Hy-Luk, Acting Executive Assistant  
Sylvie Lee, Manager of Planning & Environmental Resources  
Scott Oakden, Manager of Operations  
Cathleen Pieroni, Manager of Government Relations  
Jesse Pompa, Manager of Grants  
Wilson To, Technology Specialist II  
April Woodruff, Board Secretary/Office Manager

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Jessica Gauger, California Association of Sanitation Agencies

Committee Chair Steven Elie called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. He stated that the meeting is being conducted virtually by video and audio conferencing. He added that there will be no public location available to attend the meeting; however, the public may participate and provide comments during the meeting by calling into the number provided on the agenda. He further

added that the public may also view the meeting live through the Agency's website. He then gave the public the opportunity to comment and gave instructions for unmuting the conference line.

There were no public comments received or additions to the agenda.

### **PRESENTATION**

Director of Legislative Advocacy & Public Affairs Jessica Gauger of California Association of Sanitation Agencies (CASA) presented an update on the AB 1672 (Bloom) Solid Waste: Nonwoven Disposable Wipes.

Director Parker asked whether the pilot study, which included the city of Ontario, had already been conducted or will this happen in the future. Ms. Gauger stated that the wipes dispersibility pilot study involved ten agencies throughout California and was conducted last summer.

Executive Manager of Operations/AGM Randy Lee stated that the Agency gathered information from CASA and assisted in the recruitment of agencies into the pilot study by presenting the information to the Agency's member agencies, such as the city of Ontario. Mr. Lee further stated that the Agency was on-site and participated in the data collection.

### **ACTION ITEMS**

The Committee:

- ◆ Approved the Community and Legislative Affairs Committee meeting minutes of June 10, 2020.

### **INFORMATION ITEMS**

The following information items were presented or received and filed by the Committee:

- ◆ Public Outreach and Communication
- ◆ State Legislative Report and Matrix – West Coast Advisors
- ◆ Federal Legislative Report and Matrix – Innovative Federal Strategies
- ◆ California Strategies Monthly Report

### **GENERAL MANAGER'S COMMENTS**

There were no General Manager's comments.

### **COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS**

There were no Committee member comments.

### **COMMITTEE MEMBER REQUESTED FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

There were no Committee member requests for future agenda items.

With no further business, Director Elie adjourned the meeting at 9:38 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Mantilla  
Interim Board Secretary/Office Manager

\*A Municipal Water District

**APPROVED: August 12, 2020**

DRAFT

ACTION  
ITEM  
1B

**Date:** August 19, 2020

**To:** The Honorable Board of Directors

**From:** Shivaji Deshmukh, General Manager

**Committee:** Community & Legislative Affairs

08/12/20

**Executive Contact:** Kathy Besser, Executive Manager of Ext. Aff. & Policy Dev./AGM

**Subject:** Recommended Support for HR 7073, Special Districts Provide Essential Services Act

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**Executive Summary:**

Rep. John Garamendi (CA-03) introduced HR 7073 in response to special districts being ineligible to receive direct federal financial assistance under the "Coronavirus Relief Fund" that was established in the CARES Act. This was the first federal stimulus bill to provide assistance to state, county and local governments as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

HR 7073 would ensure that California's 2,700 special districts, along with more than 30,000 nationwide, are eligible for any additional federal funding that is made available through future legislation. Special districts provide important infrastructure, first response and other critical local services for millions of residents across the State, and have been financially strained due to COVID-19.

By adopting a position of "Support," IEUA will be able to work with the California Special Districts Association and other special districts on incorporating this language into the third pandemic relief package that is expected to be considered in August.

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**Staff's Recommendation:**

Adopt a "Support" position for HR 7073, the Special Districts Provide Essential Services Act.

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**Budget Impact** *Budgeted* (Y/N): N *Amendment* (Y/N): N *Amount for Requested Approval:*

*Account/Project Name:*

*Fiscal Impact (explain if not budgeted):*

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**Prior Board Action:**

None

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**Environmental Determination:**

Not Applicable

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**Business Goal:**

Approving a position of "Support" for HR 7073 is in line with IEUA's business goal of advocating for development of policies, legislation and regulations that benefit the region.

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**Attachments:**

Attachment 1 - Background

Attachment 2 - HR 7073, as introduced.

## Background

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Subject: Recommended “Support” Position for HR 7073, the Special Districts Provide Essential Services Act

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Under the guidance of federal health officials, in mid-March state governments responded to the COVID-19 pandemic by enacting stay-at-home orders and mandating the closure of many businesses and non-essential services. The resulting economic decline has impacted not only business owners, but also local governments and special districts.

Since March 24, two federal stimulus bills have been signed into law that provide federal financial assistance to state, county and local governments affected by the pandemic. However, special districts are ineligible to receive funding from the “Coronavirus Relief Fund” that was established in the first stimulus package.

H.R.7073, the Special Districts Provide Essential Services Act, would provide special districts with access to the Coronavirus Relief Fund for any new funding appropriated by Congress. IEUA believes these provisions would bring much needed relief to the Agency and the special districts within IEUA’s service area. This legislation would provide IEUA with proportional access to federal relief resources that would help the Agency confront the impacts of COVID-19 and account for associated unbudgeted expenses and revenue losses.

With the Board’s decision to defer all rates for one year to help mitigate the fiscal impact to ratepayers as a result of COVID-19, the Agency’s Fiscal Year 2020-21 budget is expected to have a \$4.1 million revenue shortfall, which will be managed by delaying implementation of projects and expenses that can be suspended in the short-term. Without knowing how long this pandemic will continue to alter the way business is conducted, ongoing declining revenue could cause project delays and deferred maintenance that are essential services of the Agency.

As Congress continues to negotiate the next pandemic relief package to respond to COVID-19’s impacts to state and local government budgets, the California Special Districts Association is supporting the inclusion of the provisions of the Special Districts Provide Essential Services Act to be incorporated into final legislation to ensure special districts have access to critical resources.

116TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 7073

To amend the Social Security Act to include special districts in the coronavirus relief fund, to direct the Secretary to include special districts as an eligible issuer under the Municipal Liquidity Facility, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 1, 2020

Mr. GARAMENDI (for himself, Mr. KILMER, Ms. LEE of California, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mrs. DEMINGS, Mr. COX of California, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. BERA, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. ROUDA, Mr. CRIST, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. SOTO, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. KHANNA, and Mr. COSTA) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Oversight and Reform, and in addition to the Committee on Financial Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

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## A BILL

To amend the Social Security Act to include special districts in the coronavirus relief fund, to direct the Secretary to include special districts as an eligible issuer under the Municipal Liquidity Facility, and for other purposes.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Special Districts Pro-  
3 vide Essential Services Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. INCLUSION OF SPECIAL DISTRICTS IN THE CORO-  
5 NAVIRUS RELIEF FUND.**

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 601(a) of the Social Secu-  
7 rity Act (42 U.S.C. 801(a)) is amended by adding at the  
8 end the following new paragraph:

9 “(3) FUNDS FOR SPECIAL DISTRICTS.—If an  
10 amount in excess of \$150,000,000,000 is appro-  
11 priated for payments made under this section, spe-  
12 cial districts shall be eligible for payments out of  
13 such excess amount in accordance with subsection  
14 (c)(6).”.

15 (b) AMOUNT FOR SPECIAL DISTRICTS.—Section  
16 601(c) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 801(c)) is  
17 amended—

18 (1) by redesignating paragraphs (6) through  
19 (8) as paragraphs (7) through (9), respectively; and  
20 (2) by inserting after paragraph (5) the fol-  
21 lowing new paragraph:

22 “(6) SPECIAL DISTRICTS.—If a portion of any  
23 excess amount described in subsection (a)(3) is allo-  
24 cated to a State, such State shall allocate at least  
25 5 percent of that amount for special districts in that  
26 State for distribution at such State’s discretion, not

1 later than 60 days after such State has received  
2 such funds.”.

3 (c) DEFINITION OF SPECIAL DISTRICT.—Section  
4 601(g) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 801(g)) is  
5 amended—

6 (1) by redesignating paragraphs (4) through  
7 (5) as paragraphs (5) through (6), respectively; and  
8 (2) by inserting after paragraph (3) the fol-  
9 lowing new paragraph:

10 “(4) SPECIAL DISTRICT.—The term ‘special dis-  
11 trict’ means a political subdivision, formed pursuant  
12 to general law or special act of a State, for the pur-  
13 pose of performing one or more governmental or  
14 proprietary functions.”.

15 (d) UPDATE TO GUIDANCE.—The Secretary of the  
16 Treasury shall update any guidance issued with respect  
17 to the Coronavirus Relief Fund established under section  
18 601 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 801) to reflect  
19 the inclusion of special districts as eligible for payments  
20 from amounts in excess of \$150,000,000,000 appropriated  
21 under such section.

22 **SEC. 3. INCLUDING SPECIAL DISTRICTS IN THE MUNICIPAL**  
23 **LIQUIDITY FACILITY.**

24 The Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve Sys-  
25 tem shall include special districts as eligible issuers in the

- 1 Municipal Liquidity Facility program authorized under
- 2 section 13(3) of the Federal Reserve Act.



ACTION  
ITEM  
1C

**Date:** August 19, 2020

*ADD*

**To:** The Honorable Board of Directors

**From:** Shivaji Deshmukh, General Manager

**Committee:** Community & Legislative Affairs

08/12/20

**Executive Contact:** Kathy Besser, Executive Manager of Ext. Aff. & Policy Dev./AGM

**Subject:** Approval of Civic Publications Contract for Fiscal Year 2020/21

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**Executive Summary:**

Civic Publications specializes in communication and outreach solutions for public agencies, and assists IEUA in providing these specialized services.

IEUA has worked with Civic Publications to further public education and communication outreach since 2012. Specifically, IEUA has utilized Civic Publications to develop print and digital media to be utilized in print ads, digital ads, editorials, targeted email marketing, and more.

Civic Publications is well-versed in IEUA's background, messaging and brand, which makes them the ideal vendor to assist the Agency with ad development and placement. Utilizing a vendor with the knowledge and history of the Agency ensures the consistency and accuracy of IEUA branding and messaging to the public.

Staff is proposing a not-to-exceed sole source contract of \$45,000 for fiscal year 20/21. The attached proposal includes the cafeteria plan of services Civic Publications provides; including but not limited to targeted email blasts, digital advertising and newspaper ads.

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**Staff's Recommendation:**

1. Approve a contract for Civic Publications for a total not-to-exceed contract amount of \$45,000 through June 30, 2021; and
2. Authorize the General Manager to execute the contract subject to non-substantive changes.

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**Budget Impact** Budgeted (Y/N): Y Amendment (Y/N): N Amount for Requested Approval: \$ 45,000

Account/Project Name:

Marketing/Outreach services have been budgeted within the External Affairs department under the Ads/Newspaper category.

Fiscal Impact (explain if not budgeted):

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**Prior Board Action:**

None.

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**Environmental Determination:**

Not Applicable

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**Business Goal:**

The Civic Publications contract is consistent with IEUA's business goal of Water Reliability, specifically the key objective of Water Use Efficiency stating the IEUA will promote water conservation, education and incentive water use programs to assist the region in safeguarding water sustainability.

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**Attachments:**

Attachment 1 - Civic Publications Proposal Letter

Attachment 2 - Civic Publications Exhibit A



# CIVIC Publications, Inc.

Christopher W. Lancaster  
Publisher

July 8, 2020

Shivaji Deshmukh, P.E.  
General Manager  
Inland Empire Utilities Agency  
6075 Kimball Ave.  
Chino, CA 91708

**Re: Public Education and Communications Outreach Proposal**

Dear Mr. Deshmukh,

Pursuant to my conversation with IEUA staff, submitted for your consideration is this FY 2020-2021 proposal for Civic Publications Inc. to assist the Inland Empire Utilities Agency (IEUA) with its public education and communications outreach.

Civic Publications, Inc. provides communications outreach solutions for public agencies, providing factual content and bringing clarity to community and civic issues.

The task is to explain how IEUA benefits the public by protecting their public health and the environment. Through the collection and cleaning of wastewater IEUA plays an important role in the overall infrastructure of environmental public health. Effective communications solutions will cut through the complexity of wastewater treatment, water recycling, water availability and reliability issues.

Public outreach messaging from the IEUA to the citizens it serves may also include updating the public on upcoming attractions and events, important advisory messages regarding public health, drought, water conservation solutions and any other service information.

Thank you for the opportunity to discuss public affairs needs associated with Inland Empire Utilities Agency. I look forward to developing cost-effective solutions that meet the needs of your agency and which serve the highest standards of the public interest.

Respectfully submitted,

Christopher W. Lancaster  
Publisher

# Public Outreach Proposal (IEUA) FY 2020-21

Prepared by Civic Publications, Inc. July 2020

## Exhibit "A"

|                               |  |                        |             |
|-------------------------------|--|------------------------|-------------|
| <b>DIGITAL</b>                | <b>Cost</b>  | <b>Example</b>         | <b>Cost</b> |
| Email Blast                   | 0.06 cents per email   | 100,000 emails         | \$6,000.00  |
| Text Message                  | 0.0325 cents per text  | 100,000 Text Messages  | \$3,250.00  |
| Internet Ads / Google or FB   | 0.03 cents per ad  | 100,000 Ads            | \$3,000.00  |
| Pay Per Click Ads (PPC)       | \$2,500 per month<br>up to 2,000 clicks per month<br>Cost per Click \$1.25 | 6 months               | \$15,000.00 |
| KTH Webiste Redesign          | \$4,500  |                        | \$4,500.00  |
| <b>PRINT</b>                  | <b>Size</b>  | <b>Cost per AD</b>     | <b>Cost</b> |
| (August) California Water     | Spadia   | \$7,219.00             | \$7,219.00  |
| (December) Sustainable Living | Spadia   | \$7,219.00             | \$7,219.00  |
| (April ) Earth Day            | Spadia   | \$7,219.00             | \$7,219.00  |
| Newspaper Ads                 | Four 1/4 page ads  | \$1,650.00             | \$6,600.00  |
|                               | <b>Quantity</b>  | <b>Size</b>            | <b>Cost</b> |
| Door Hangers                  | 20,000   | 5.25" x 17" four color | \$6,800.00  |
| Direct Mail                   | TBD  | TBD                    | TBD         |



INFORMATION  
ITEM  
2A

**Date:** August 19, 2020

**To:** The Honorable Board of Directors

**From:** Shivaji Deshmukh, General Manager

**Committee:** Community & Legislative Affairs

08/12/20

**Executive Contact:** Shivaji Deshmukh, General Manager

**Subject:** Adopt a position of "Oppose unless Amended" on AB 3030 (Kalra) Resource conservation: land and ocean conservation goals, as amended July 21, 2020

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**Executive Summary:**

AB 3030 (Kalra) would establish aspirational goals of the state to, by 2030, protect at least 30% of the state's land areas and waters; to help advance the protection of 30% of the nation's oceans; and to support regional, national, and international efforts to protect at least 30% of the world's oceans. Further, the bill establishes certain unspecific actions, like collaborating with federal, regional, and international governments to support and advance protections for terrestrial and marine habitats that lie outside of the state's jurisdiction to accomplish these goals.

Staff has concluded that while the intent of this bill is laudable, it needs more work in order to be effective and not threaten water supplies. Of particular concern is the bill's nascent and evolving definition of "protection" and the bill's lack of specificity for accomplishing its goals.

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**Staff's Recommendation:**

This is an informational item for Committee input. The General Manager intends to utilize the general authority of the Board-adopted 2020 Legislative Policy Principles to adopt a position of "Oppose unless Amended" on AB 3030 (Kalra) Resource conservation: land and ocean conservation goals, as amended July 21, 2020.

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**Budget Impact** Budgeted (Y/N): N Amendment (Y/N): Y Amount for Requested Approval:

Account/Project Name:

N/A

**Fiscal Impact** (explain if not budgeted):

None

**Prior Board Action:**

Adoption of 2020 Legislative Policy Principles.

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**Environmental Determination:**

Not Applicable

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**Business Goal:**

Taking legislative positions is in line with IEUA's business practices goal of advocating for the development of policies, legislation and regulations that benefit the region.

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**Attachments:**

Attachment 1 - Background

Attachment 2 - AB 3030 (Kalra) Resource conservation: land and ocean conservation goals, as amended July 21, 2020

## Background

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Subject: Adopt a position of "Oppose unless Amended" on AB 3030 (Kalra) Resource conservation: land and ocean conservation goals, as amended July 21, 2020

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AB 3030 was introduced on February 21, 2020 by Assemblymember Ash Kalra (San Jose). Since that time, co-authors have grown to include Assemblymembers Bloom, Gonzalez, Reyes, and Robert Rivas along with Senator Allen.

The bill would establish aspirational goals of the state to, by 2030, protect at least 30% of the state's land areas and waters; to help advance the protection of 30% of the nation's oceans; and to support regional, national, and international efforts to protect at least 30% of the world's oceans. Further, the bill establishes certain unspecific actions, like collaborating with federal, regional, and international governments to support and advance protections for terrestrial and marine habitats that lie outside of the state's jurisdiction to accomplish these goals.

Staff has concluded that while the intent of this bill is laudable, the bill needs more work in order to be effective and not threaten water management and resources. As the bill's language is largely declaratory, it is not clear how the legislature intends to achieve the goals laid out in the bill. Also of concern is the bill's nascent and evolving definition of "protection", which does not specify its meaning in the context of the state's water resources.

On July 21, 2020, AB 3030 was amended to include the following definition of "protect" or "protection" for purposes of this bill:

*... means the establishment of enduring measures on land, water, and oceans that support thriving biodiversity, contribute to climate resilience, and provide ecosystem services, such that their natural character, resources, and functions are conserved, protected, restored, and enhanced for current and future generations.*

Recognizing the pervasive nature of anthropogenic impacts on all lands, waters and oceans, even remote and preserved areas, staff is concerned that the aspirational goals of this bill – especially, to return ecosystems to their “natural character, resources, and functions” – are largely unattainable, at least within a reasonable cost. Further, the lack of prescriptive language in the bill and the ambiguity of the declaratory language make it impossible to fully understand the ramifications of the proposal, not only in the context of water, but in the broader environmental protection landscape that includes existing laws such as the California Endangered Species Act and the California Environmental Quality Act.

Moreover, the water community is concerned that the ambitious scope of this bill would result impacts to long-standing water rights and delivery systems. The wastewater community is similarly concerned with what impacts this bill could have on NPDES permits.

Staff has consulted with West Coast Advisors on this bill and recommends seeking amendments to AB 3030 (Kalra) that effectively convert the bill into a state resolution, which would be more in line with the aspirational nature of the bill.

IEUA's Legislative Policy Principles in support of adopting the staff recommended position of "Opposes unless Amended" for AB 3030 are listed below.

- Support administrative/legislative and/or regulatory activities that preserve IEUA's and the region's ability to pursue water supply options and oppose constraints on supply development.
- Support administrative and legislative actions promoting the resiliency and improved operability of IEUA's systems.

Pending Committee input, staff intends to use the general authority provided by the Board-adopted 2020 Legislative Policy Principles to adopt a position of "Oppose unless Amended" immediately in order to allow IEUA to engage on the bill in advance of the meeting of the Senate's fiscal committee that is currently scheduled for August 21, 2020.

AMENDED IN SENATE JULY 21, 2020

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JUNE 4, 2020

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 6, 2020

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2019–20 REGULAR SESSION

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 3030**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Kalra**  
**(Coauthors: Assembly Members Bloom, Gonzalez, Reyes, and**  
**Robert Rivas)**  
*(Coauthor: Senator Allen)*

February 21, 2020

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An act to add Section 9001.6 to the Public Resources Code, relating to resource conservation.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 3030, as amended, Kalra. Resource conservation: land and ocean conservation goals.

Existing law declares it to be the policy of the state that the protection and management of natural and working lands, as defined, is an important strategy in meeting the state's greenhouse gas emissions reduction goals, and requires all state agencies, departments, boards, and commissions to consider this policy when revising, adopting, or establishing policies, regulations, expenditures, or grant criteria relating to the protection and management of natural and working lands.

This bill would declare it to be the goals of the state by 2030 to protect at least 30% of the state's land areas and waters; to help advance the protection of 30% of the nation's oceans; and to support regional, national, and international efforts to protect at least 30% of the world's

land areas and waters and 30% of the world's ocean. The bill would authorize the state to achieve these goals through specified activities.

*The bill would declare it a further goal of the state to improve access to nature for all people in the state and to provide for recreational and educational opportunities, including wildlife-dependent recreational activities, with a specific emphasis on increasing access for communities of color and economically disadvantaged communities.*

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.  
State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

- 1 SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of the
- 2 following:
- 3 (a) Access to public land, nature, and a healthy environment
- 4 should be a right for all people, as that access is essential to the
- 5 health, well-being, identity, culture, and economic prosperity of
- 6 California.
- 7 (b) California faces a biodiversity and climate crisis, with nature
- 8 in a steep decline and greenhouse gas emissions not declining at
- 9 the rate scientists say is needed in the United States and worldwide.
- 10 (c) Scientists are documenting a rapid loss of natural areas and
- 11 wildlife in California, the United States, and throughout the world,
- 12 including all of the following:
- 13 (1) From 2001 to 2017, a quantity of natural areas equal to the
- 14 size of a football field disappeared to development every 30
- 15 seconds in the United States, constituting more than 1,500,000
- 16 acres per year.
- 17 (2) The Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on
- 18 Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services found that approximately
- 19 1,000,000 plant and animal species are threatened with extinction
- 20 over the coming decades as a result of land conversion, water
- 21 diversions, development, climate change, invasive species,
- 22 pollution, other stressors, and direct exploitation, including wildlife
- 23 trade.
- 24 (3) The Intergovernmental Science Policy Platform on
- 25 Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services found that more than 500,000
- 26 terrestrial species have insufficient habitat for long-term survival
- 27 without habitat restoration.

1 (4) From 2001 to 2017, California has lost more than 1,000,000  
2 acres of natural area.

3 (5) At least 686 California species are at risk of future extinction,  
4 and native species in California have already declined by 20  
5 percent.

6 (d) Climate change is accelerating the decline of nature in  
7 California and the United States.

8 (e) The Third National Climate Assessment found that climate  
9 change is reducing the ability of ecosystems to provide clean water  
10 and regulate water flows, limiting the ability of nature to buffer  
11 communities against disasters, such as fires, storms, floods, and  
12 marine heatwaves. Many of these changes disproportionately  
13 impact the health of communities of color and indigenous  
14 populations, and have far-reaching effects on marine and terrestrial  
15 wildlife, including by altering habitats, forcing changes to  
16 migratory patterns, altering the timing of biological events, causing  
17 shifts in species distributions, and warming and acidifying the  
18 ocean.

19 (f) Nature, like the climate, is nearing a tipping point where the  
20 continued loss and degradation of the natural environment will  
21 push many ecosystems and wildlife species past the point of no  
22 return, threaten the health and economic prosperity of California  
23 and the United States, and increase the costs of natural disasters.

24 (g) ~~The Globally, the existing protections for land, water, the~~  
25 ~~ocean, and wildlife in California and the United States are~~  
26 ~~insufficient to prevent a further decline of nature.~~

27 ~~(h) Protected land, water, and ocean areas must support thriving~~  
28 ~~biodiversity, contribute to climate resilience, and provide~~  
29 ~~ecosystem services; be established with enduring measures; and~~  
30 ~~managed so that their natural character, resources, and functions~~  
31 ~~are preserved, maximized, and not impaired for current and future~~  
32 ~~generations.~~

33 *(h) Historically, California has been a leader in conservation,*  
34 *working with stakeholders to develop exemplary programs and*  
35 *regulations that support and protect biodiversity in the marine*  
36 *and terrestrial environments of California.*

37 *(i) California should protect land, water, ocean, and wildlife*  
38 *in the state as necessary to prevent the further decline of nature.*

1     (j) *This act is not intended to undermine the Fish and Game*  
2     *Commission’s authority in managing the public trust resources of*  
3     *the state.*

4     ~~(i)~~

5     (k) Conserving and restoring nature is one of the most efficient  
6     and cost-effective strategies for fighting climate change.

7     ~~(j)~~

8     (l) The implementation of this policy includes promoting  
9     voluntary cooperation with private land owners.

10    ~~(k)~~

11    (m) To confront the deterioration of natural systems and the  
12    loss of biodiversity around the world, and to remain below a 1.5  
13    degrees Celsius increase in average global temperature, scientists  
14    recommend that roughly one-half of the planet be conserved.

15    ~~(l)~~

16    (n) As a step toward achieving that goal, scientists have  
17    recommended that all countries commit to conserving and  
18    protecting at least 30 percent of land areas and waters and 30  
19    percent of the ocean in each country by 2030, with a long-term  
20    goal of conserving one-half of the planet.

21    (o) *The International Union for Conservation of Nature has*  
22    *established guidance related to access, resource use, and visitation*  
23    *in protected areas, providing that if activities are compatible with*  
24    *a protected area’s objectives, and they are permitted within the*  
25    *terms governing the protected area, the activities may be allowed.*

26    (p) *Implementation of a state policy to protect at least 30 percent*  
27    *of California’s land areas and waters within the state and 30*  
28    *percent of the nation’s oceans by 2030 should be consistent with*  
29    *state housing and economic goals.*

30    SEC. 2. Section 9001.6 is added to the Public Resources Code,  
31    to read:

32    9001.6. (a) ~~It~~ *For purposes of this section, “protect” or*  
33    *“protection” means the establishment of enduring measures on*  
34    *land, water, and oceans that support thriving biodiversity,*  
35    *contribute to climate resilience, and provide ecosystem services,*  
36    *such that their natural character, resources, and functions are*  
37    *conserved, protected, restored, and enhanced for current and*  
38    *future generations.*

39    (b) *It is the goal of the state to protect at least 30 percent of*  
40    *California’s land areas and waters and to help advance the*

1 protection of 30 percent of the nation's oceans by ~~2030~~ 2030,  
2 *inclusive of existing protections afforded by state and federal laws*  
3 *and regulations.*

4 ~~(b)~~

5 (c) It is further the goal of the state to support regional, national,  
6 and international efforts to protect at least 30 percent of the world's  
7 land areas and waters and 30 percent of the world's ocean by 2030.

8 (d) *It is further the goal of the state to improve access to nature*  
9 *for all people in the state and to provide for recreational and*  
10 *educational opportunities, including wildlife-dependent*  
11 *recreational activities, as defined in Section 1571 of the Fish and*  
12 *Game Code, with a specific emphasis on increasing access for*  
13 *communities of color and economically disadvantaged*  
14 *communities. Opportunities for improved access include existing*  
15 *and new opportunities.*

16 ~~(e)~~

17 (e) The state may achieve the goals described in subdivisions  
18 ~~(a) and~~ (b) and (c) through activities that include, but are not  
19 limited to, any of the following:

20 (1) Working with the federal government, local communities,  
21 Native American tribes, other countries, and *willing* private  
22 landowners to conserve natural places and resources.

23 (2) Improving access to nature for all people in the state, with  
24 a specific emphasis on increasing access for communities of color  
25 and economically disadvantaged communities.

26 (3) Preventing extinction by recovering and restoring  
27 biodiversity, including species listed under the California  
28 Endangered Species Act (Chapter 1.5 (commencing with Section  
29 2050) of Division 3 of the Fish and Game Code).

30 (4) Enhancing climate resilience by protecting genetic diversity.

31 (5) Sequestering carbon and greenhouse gas emissions through  
32 natural measures in the land, waters, and ocean.

33 (6) Focusing work at a scale that is biologically and ecologically  
34 meaningful, including at a landscape or seascape scale, where  
35 appropriate.

36 (7) Collaborating with federal, regional, and international  
37 governments to support and advance protections for *terrestrial*  
38 *and marine* habitats that lie outside of the state's jurisdiction to  
39 ensure effective protections for California species that travel, are

1 migratory, or have ranges that extend beyond the borders of the  
2 state.

3 ~~(8) Considering how existing state marine protected areas~~  
4 ~~contribute to the goals described in subdivisions (a) and (b) during~~  
5 ~~the science-based decadal review of the state's marine protected~~  
6 ~~area network and considering potential complementary measures~~  
7 ~~to protect marine biodiversity and ecological integrity.~~

8 ~~(9) Working, in relation to the consideration described in~~  
9 ~~paragraph (8), with federal, tribal, and other partners to identify~~  
10 ~~and implement actions to advance the goals described in~~  
11 ~~subdivisions (a) and (b), including in state and federal waters off~~  
12 ~~the coast of California.~~

13 *(8) Considering how existing processes to evaluate or strengthen*  
14 *environmental conservation in California can contribute to the*  
15 *goals described in subdivisions (b) and (c) and leveraging those*  
16 *processes to identify, evaluate, and implement measures to meet*  
17 *the goals described in subdivisions (b) and (c).*

18 ~~(10)~~  
19 (9) Stabilizing ecosystems and the services of ecosystems,  
20 restoring degraded ecosystems, and maintaining and enhancing  
21 ecological functions, including functional ecological connectivity  
22 ~~across the state's landscape in the face of human development~~  
23 *impact* and climate change.

24 ~~(11)~~  
25 (10) Aligning the state's economic and purchasing power with  
26 efforts to protect ecosystems and threatened biodiversity within  
27 the state, nationally, and internationally.

28 ~~(12)~~  
29 (11) Ensuring that protected areas within the state are effectively  
30 managed and enforced.

31 ~~(13)~~  
32 (12) Securing protections for habitat types that are  
33 underrepresented in protected areas.

INFORMATION  
ITEM  
2B

**Date:** August 19, 2020

**To:** The Honorable Board of Directors

*ADD*  
**From:** Shivaji Deshmukh, General Manager

**Committee:** Community & Legislative Affairs

08/12/20

**Executive Contact:** Kathy Besser, Executive Manager of Ext. Aff. & Policy Dev./AGM

**Subject:** Public Outreach and Communication

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**Executive Summary:**

- August, National Water Quality Month
- August 23-28, World Water Week

On July 30, staff coordinated a virtual Chino I Desalter tour for Anaheim Public Utilities' staff. Ian Tillery, Deputy Manager of Operations, provided a PowerPoint highlighting the Ion Exchange System and was on-site to provide real-time visuals and explanations of the Ion Exchange process and "build" specifications.

Based on the latest updates, students and teachers returning to school in August will be utilizing a distance learning format until San Bernardino County is removed from the State's "watch list." Staff will be implementing YouTube activity videos, digital booklets, virtual tours, and Nepris programming for the upcoming school year under the brand, "Owl's Virtual Adventures." These programs will aid in the virtual curriculum transition.

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**Staff's Recommendation:**

This is an informational item for the Board of Directors to receive and file.

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**Budget Impact** *Budgeted (Y/N): Y    Amendment (Y/N): N    Amount for Requested Approval:*

*Account/Project Name:*

*Fiscal Impact (explain if not budgeted):*

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**Prior Board Action:**

N/A

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**Environmental Determination:**

Not Applicable

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**Business Goal:**

IEUA is committed to providing a reliable and cost-effective water supply and promoting sustainable water use throughout the region.

IEUA is committed to enhancing and promoting environmental sustainability and the preservation of the region's heritage.

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**Attachments:**

Attachment 1 - Background

## Background

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Subject: Public Outreach and Communication

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### August

- August, National Water Quality Month
- August 23-28, World Water Week

### Media and Outreach

- On July 30, staff coordinated a virtual Chino I Desalter tour for Anaheim Public Utilities' staff. Ian Tillery, Deputy Manager of Operations, provided a PowerPoint highlighting the Ion Exchange System and was on-site to provide real-time visuals and explanations of the Ion Exchange process and "build" specifications.
- The Agency continues to remind the public of what can/cannot be flushed down the toilet through social media posts and videos.
- The new "Guess the Animal" feature on the Chino Creek Wetlands and Educational Park Instagram page has been increasing engagement with the public. The posts have generated nine guesses from users so far.
- The Agency recognized Water is Life Poster Contest winners from the K-5<sup>th</sup>, 6-8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade categories through social media channels.
  - The post announcing the K-5<sup>th</sup> grade winning posters reached 1,200 users on Facebook and earned 124 engagements.
- The Agency recognized July as Smart Irrigation Month and shared a series of posts to educate the public on what smart irrigation looks like. Agency staff encouraged followers to submit tips and questions.
  - The post on adjusting watering schedules generated approximately 2,000 impressions and earned 35 engagements on Twitter.
- The Agency recognized National Intern Day by featuring IEUA interns on social media channels. Staff coupled this recognition day with Smart Irrigation Month by featuring Agency interns discussing irrigation best practices.
- Agency staff have been publishing stories and posts on social media to promote the launch of Wally's Water Conservation Camp.
- The Agency continues to educate the public on key terms in the water industry through the Water Word Wednesday campaign.
- July: 19 posts were published to the IEUA Facebook page, 19 posts were published to IEUA's Instagram and 19 tweets were sent on the @IEUAwater Twitter handle.
  - The top three Facebook posts, based on reach and engagement, in the month of July were:
    - 7/7 Water is Life Winners K-5<sup>th</sup> grade category
    - 7/8 Water is Life Winners 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade category
    - 7/7 Water is Life Winners 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade category
  - The top three tweets, based on reach and engagement, in the month of July were:

- 7/12 Smart Irrigation watering schedule
- 7/1 Smart Irrigation photos, questions and tips requests
- 7/7 No wipes down the pipes
- The top three Instagram posts, based on reach and engagement, in the month of July were:
  - 7/7 Water is Life Winners 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade category
  - 7/6 Water is Life Winners K-5<sup>th</sup> grade category
  - 7/10 Wally's Water Conservation Camp announcement
- A *Smart Irrigation Month/Rebate* ad ran in *La Opinion* on July 22.
- A *Wally's Water Conservation Camp* ad ran in the *Chino Valley Champion's Chino Connection Magazine* section on August 1.

For the month of July, there were 9,443 searches for a park in IEUA's service area on Yelp, where Chino Creek Wetlands and Educational Park was viewed 1,043 times on a mobile device.

#### Education and Outreach Updates

- Based on the latest updates, students and teachers returning to school in August will be utilizing a distance learning format until San Bernardino County is removed from the State's "watch list." Staff will be implementing YouTube activity videos, digital booklets, virtual tours, and Nepris programming (a free online program that gives organizations the opportunity to efficiently and effectively extend their education outreach efforts with virtual connections) for the upcoming school year under the brand, "Owlie's Virtual Adventures." These programs will aid in the virtual curriculum transition.
- The Water Discovery Program has gone digital. A digital Water Discovery activity booklet is being finalized, which incorporates current Water Discovery activities tailored to a home and/or classroom setting.
- Staff is working on "At-Home Activities" for the Agency's education programs, which continue to be posted on the website and social media.
- Staff finalized a virtual summer program education guide titled Wally's Water Conservation Camp. The program is a 20 day, at-home activity guide suited for kids of all ages. Inspired by IEUA's vision of environmental stewardship and education, as well as Water Discovery Field Trips, each activity will teach kids and families about water resources and sustainability.
- Staff is working on finalizing the transition of the scout badge program to a virtual format.
- The Garden in Every School® program has been placed on hold until fall. Staff will be sending out a survey to program participants inquiring as to interests and needs. Following the analysis of responses, and school teaching environments/locations, staff will determine whether to incorporate mini grants for SY 20/21, implement new garden grants or keep the program on hold.

INFORMATION  
ITEM  
2C



**July 30, 2020**

**To:** Inland Empire Utilities Agency

**From:** Michael Boccadoro  
Beth Olhasso  
Maddie Munson

**RE:** July Report

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Overview:

With summer in full swing, carryover storage in California's reservoirs is holding after dismal precipitation and snowpack this winter. San Luis Reservoir, the main south-of-Delta storage facility for the State Water Project, is at 95 percent of average and 48 percent capacity for this time of the year. Oroville is at 73 percent of average and 54 percent capacity.

On July 28, the final [Water Resilience Portfolio](#) designed to improve California's capacity to prepare for disruptions, withstand and recover from climate-related shocks, and adapt into the future, was released. The Portfolio includes well over 100 recommendations on how to secure California's water future. Some of the key recommendations include protecting delta habitat, improving conveyance, increasing recycled water production and use, stormwater capture and other measures designed to combat the effects of climate change.

On July 27, a working group of Legislators released an outline of a ["Joint Economic Stimulus Plan."](#) The joint \$100 billion stimulus plan, led by Senators Bob Hertzberg and Steven Bradford and Assemblymembers Phil Ting and Jacqui Irwin, aims to "protect Californians and support job creation during and even after the COVID-19 crisis." They rely on a "tax voucher" plan and other creative revenue streams to fund the \$100 billion. The plan also outlines some broad categories for spending including aid to small business, protecting working families, and notably investing in a green economy, which calls for investment in recycled water.

There are a total of eleven ballot measures that have qualified for the November ballot. One of the notable measures is Proposition 16, which would repeal Proposition 209 (1996). If adopted, it would permit the use of race, gender and ethnic diversity as a "plus" factor (but not decisive factors) in college admissions, government hiring, and government contracting. It would not permit the use of quotas or policies that are broadly tailored and do not consider the totality of the individual college applicant, job applicant or contract bidder. Another notable initiative that will be in front of voters in November is Proposition 15, known as the "split roll initiative." The proposition attempts to modify Proposition 13 to allow for commercial property taxes to raise annually.

The Legislature was set to return from summer recess on July 27 for the final five weeks of the legislative session, but some political posturing between the two houses has delayed at least the Assembly for another week. Speaker Rendon isn't pleased with the pace and transparency with which the Senate is scheduling and hearing Assembly bills, so he stopped his house from continuing work on Senate bills until the Senate catches up. This only makes hearing bills harder as they are working in a significantly limited capacity due to COVID-19 precautions.

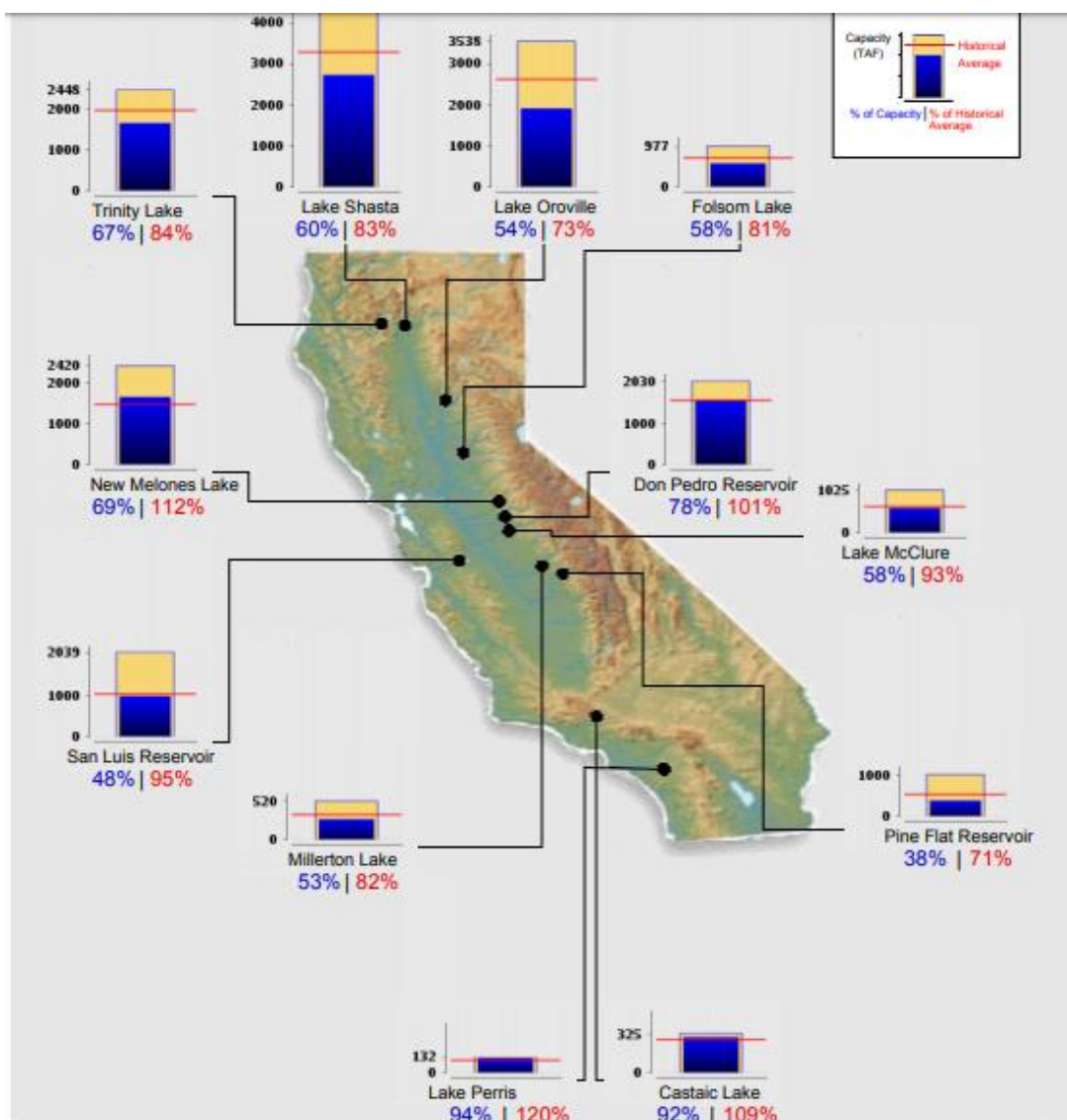
Several bills IEUA has been supporting have already been put on hold in the Assembly. SB 1099 (Dodd) concerning public safety power shutoffs and backup power generation will not be heard in the

Assembly Natural Resources Committee, but an administrative fix may be forth coming at the South Coast Air Quality Management District. Additionally, SB 1386 (Moorlach) on fire hydrant water accounting and Proposition 218, also failed to secure a hearing in the Assembly Natural Resources Committee. The water community remains hopeful that AB 2650 (Quirk) on PFAS notification and response levels and AB 1672 (Bloom) on flushable product labeling will be listed on the Senate Environmental Quality Committee agenda, which has yet to be released.

## Inland Empire Utilities Agency Status Report – July 2020

### *Water Supply Conditions*

With summer in full swing, carryover storage in California's reservoirs is holding after dismal precipitation and snowpack this winter. San Luis Reservoir, the main south-of-Delta storage facility for the State Water Project, is at 95 percent of average and 48 percent capacity for this time of the year. Oroville is at 73 percent of average and 54 percent capacity.



### ***Final Water Resilience Portfolio Released***

In April 2019, Governor Newsom issued an executive order directing state agencies to develop recommendations to meet increasing risk of extreme drought and floods, rising temperatures, overdrafted groundwater basins, aging infrastructure and other challenges magnified by climate change. On July 28, the final [Water Resilience Portfolio](#) designed to improve California's capacity to prepare for disruptions, withstand and recover from climate-related shocks, and adapt into the future, was released.

The goals and actions of the lengthy portfolio are organized into four goals and actions categories:

1. **Maintain and diversify water supplies:** state government will continue to help regions reduce reliance on any one water source and diversify supplies to enable flexibility as conditions change.
2. **Protect and enhance natural ecosystems:** state leadership is essential to restore the environmental health of many of our river systems in order to sustain fish and wildlife.
3. **Build connections:** the state aims to improve physical infrastructure to store, move and share water more flexibly and integrate water management through shared use of science, data and technology.
4. **Be prepared:** each region must prepare for new threats, including flashier floods, deeper droughts, and hotter temperatures.

The Portfolio makes 27 recommendations, each with sub-recommendations. The following are some of the recommendation categories that are relevant to IEUA:

**Recommendation 2:** Drive greater efficiency of water use in all sectors

**Recommendation 4:** Support local and regional agencies to recycle or reuse at least 2.5 million acre-feet a year in the next decade.

**Recommendation 5:** Support cities and counties to make stormwater capture a growing share of their supply.

**Recommendation 8:** Protect and restore water quality by driving pollution reduction from a range of sources.

**Recommendation 9:** Help regions better protect fish and wildlife by quantifying the timing, quality and volume of flows they need.

**Recommendation 11:** Support the expansion of wetlands, including mountain meadows, to create habitat, filter runoff, buffer floods, and recharge groundwater.

**Recommendation 13:** Allowing and improve permitting to help launch and incentivize more restoration, multi-benefit, and multi-partner projects

**Recommendation 15:** Encourage investment in upper watersheds to protect water quality and supply.

**Recommendation 18:** Help protect the economic and ecological vitality of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta.

**Recommendation 19:** Modernize inter-regional conveyance to help regions capture, store and move water.

**Recommendation 20:** Support groups and leaders in each of the state's regions to develop and execute integrated resilience targets.

***Legislative Working Group Releases \$100 Billion Economic Stimulus Plan***

On July 27, a working group of Legislators released an outline of a ["Joint Economic Stimulus Plan."](#) The joint \$100 billion stimulus plan, led by Senators Bob Hertzberg and Steven Bradford and Assemblymembers Phil Ting and Jacqui Irwin, aims to "protect Californians and support job creation during and even after the COVID-19 crisis."

The stimulus plan aims to raise \$100 billion through a new tax voucher program, significant borrowing, and the acceleration of other existing revenue streams.

**Revenue Streams:**

- Economic Recovery Fund - Authorize the State Treasurer to issue future tax vouchers to generate billions of revenues for general economic stimulus efforts outlined in the plan.
- Securitization of current revenue streams:
  - Accelerate SB 1 transportation funds to create good jobs now and to improve key roads and highways to better support the economy.
  - Accelerate existing CPUC revenue streams that will expand broadband services throughout the state to benefit distance learning and other activities.
  - Accelerate future Cap and Trade funds to backfill lost revenues due to the downturn and ensure critical programs remain funded.
- Accelerate authorized, but unused, general obligation bonds to generate funds for infrastructure projects.
- Borrow from the federal government to expand state unemployment insurance programs.

**Funding Categories:**

- Support for Small Business
- Protect Working Families
- ***Investments in our Green Economy.*** Improve the environment, combat climate change, and create green infrastructure and jobs with investments including, but are not limited to, the following efforts:
  - Invest in wildfire prevention and vegetation management activities.
  - Fight sea level rise, and protect wetlands and communities from climate change impacts.
  - **Improve clean water delivery and recycling infrastructure.**
  - Create a dedicated fund to incentivize light and heavy-duty, including passenger clean vehicles, as well as expedite and expand electric vehicle charging infrastructure projects.
  - Make buildings more energy efficient with greener HVAC and water systems, as well as clean energy generation and battery energy storage systems.
  - Streamline the CEQA through targeted, and limited, use of the AB 900 process – including for housing – to ensure environmental leadership projects actually get built

The working group has noted that they intend to "seek input" from the Newsom Administration including the Governor's Task Force on Business and Jobs Recovery and from the public. They also

note that both houses will work together to approve measures by the Aug 31 end of session deadline and identify priorities for next session.

### ***Proposition 16 and Ballot Measure Update***

Before the Legislature left for summer recess, they passed a number of measures to be considered by voters on the November ballot. IEUA staff asked WCA to detail one of those measures, Proposition 16.

Proposition 16, known as Assembly Constitutional Amendment 5 while it was moving through the Legislature, asks voters to repeal Proposition 209 (1996). If adopted it would permit the use of race, gender and ethnic diversity as a “plus” factor (but not decisive factors) in college admissions, government hiring, and government contracting. It would not permit the use of quotas or policies that are broadly tailored and do not consider the totality of the individual college applicant, job applicant or contract bidder.

There are currently no formal committees formed and filed with the Secretary of State to support or oppose Proposition 16.

There are a total of 11 propositions on the November ballot. The other measures are:

**Proposition 14:** Authorizes \$5.5 Billion in Bonds Continuing Stem Cell Research

**Proposition 15:** Increases Funding Sources for Public Schools, Community Colleges, and Local Government Services by Changing Tax Assessment of Commercial and Industrial Property (Split Roll Property Tax/Prop 13)

**Proposition 16:** Allows Diversity as a Factor in Public Employment, Education, and Contracting Decisions

**Proposition 17:** Restores Right to Vote After Completion of Prison Term

**Proposition 18:** Amends California Constitution to Permit 17-Year-Olds to Vote in Primary and Special Elections If They Will Turn 18 By the Next General Election and Be Otherwise Eligible to Vote

**Proposition 19:** Changes Certain Property Tax Rules- Allows homeowners who are over 55, disabled, or wildfire/disaster victims to transfer primary residence’s tax base to replacement residence.

**Proposition 20:** Restricts Parole for Non-Violent Offenders. Authorizes Felony Sentences for Certain Offenses Currently Treated Only as Misdemeanors

**Proposition 21:** Expands Local Governments’ Authority to Enact Rent Control on Residential Property

**Proposition 22:** Exempts App-Based Transportation and Delivery Companies from Providing Employee Benefits to Certain Drivers

**Proposition 23:** Establishes State Requirements for Kidney Dialysis Clinics.

**Proposition 24:** Amends Consumer Privacy Laws

**Proposition 25:** Referendum on Law That Replaced Money Bail System Based on Public Safety and Flight Risk.

### ***Legislative Update***

The Legislature returned from their Summer Recess on July 27 to begin the final five weeks of the legislative session. Less than 12 hours into their return, work ceased because of a lack of cooperation between the two houses. Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon cancelled Assembly committee hearings in order to “facilitate discussions with the Senate.” The Speaker is worried about the lack of work in the Senate. The Senate has been very slow to release committee agendas and those that are released have significantly cut down the number of bills they are willing to hear. The hope is that this is just a

momentary disagreement between the two houses and that members will be back in the Capitol to consider the hundreds of bills still left in policy committees. Legislators have until August 31 to move bills to the Governor's desk for approval.

The budget front has been just as chaotic. It took time and some significant wrangling for the Legislature and the Governor to agree on how to tackle the estimated \$54 billion budget shortfall facing the state due to the COVID-19 crisis. The Legislature ultimately passed a budget that assumes significant funding from the federal government, but has "trigger cuts" included should the funding not materialize. Even with the trigger cuts, should federal funding fail to appear, the Legislature and the Governor will have to make some significant cuts, either before the August deadline or in January when they return. It is also possible that a special session on economic recovery could be called. The Governor has not indicated he is going to call a special session, but if members are unable to agree on economic recovery measures in the next five weeks, or the federal government drags its feet, a special session might be needed.

AB 3256 (E. Garcia) Update: The Assembly version of a resilience bond is almost certainly stalled for the year. Deadlines have passed for measurers to qualify for the ballot, though there are some that think that the state would be willing to send out a supplemental ballot. This is extremely unlikely. The discussion on resilience will move into the joint proposal discussed above and the Governor's task force efforts.

*Bills still active:*

AB 1672 (Bloom): CASA has been working on a flushable products labeling measure for several years. They have reached an agreement with the industry that will not just remove the opposition to the bill, but bring the flushable products manufactures on as a co-sponsor of the legislation to require specific "DO NOT FLUSH" labeling on wipes. The measure is expected to be heard in the Senate Environmental Quality Committee in early August.

AB 2560 (Quirk) is CMUA and OCWD's bill on procedures for establishing notification and response levels at the SWRCB. The measure has easily moved through the Assembly committee and full house process and is in the Senate Environmental Quality Committee.

SB 1099 (Dodd) is CMUA and Las Virgenes' bill addressing run times for backup generators during public safety power shutoffs. The bill did not get scheduled for a hearing in the Assembly Natural Resources Committee. However, CMUA and Las Virgenes have been in talks with the South Coast Air Pollution Control District on an administrative fix. There is a preliminary agreement among parties to open a rulemaking at the SCAQMD. The agreement stipulates that any agency wishing to get run-time relief will have to agree to some, yet to be determined, environmental mitigation. The rulemaking will determine the specifics. WCA will be sure to keep IEUA staff updated if this agreement is finalized and a rulemaking is opened at the SCAQMD.

SB 1386 (Moorlach) is the bill addressing the class action lawsuit on the how water from fire hydrants is treated under Prop. 218. IEUA has joined a very long list of supporters of this legislation and the bill moved easily through the Assembly. The bill has not been set for a hearing in the Assembly Local Government Committee yet but is rumored to be likely added to their August 11 agenda.

**IEUA BILL POSITIONS—July 30, 2020**

| Bill Number | Author/Sponsor                   | Title and/or Summary   | Summary   | IEUA Position   |
|-------------|----------------------------------|--|---|---|
| AB 1672     | Bloom<br><br>CASA                | Product labeling: flushable products   | Current law regulates the labeling requirements on various consumer products. This bill would express the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation to prohibit the sale or advertisement of any nonwoven disposable product labeled as “flushable” or “sewer and septic safe” if that product fails to meet specified performance standards.  | SUPPORT<br><br>Senate Environmental Quality Committee                           |
| AB 2093     | Gloria                           | <i>Public records: writing transmitted by electronic mail: retention</i>       | <i>Would, unless a longer retention period is required by statute or regulation, or established by the Secretary of State pursuant to the State Records Management Act, require a public agency, for purposes of the California Public Records Act, to retain and preserve for at least 2 years every public record, as defined, that is transmitted by electronic mail.</i>  | OPPOSE<br><br>FAILED<br>Assembly Appropriations Committee                       |
| AB 2182     | Rubio<br><br>ACWA Sponsored      | <i>Emergency backup generators: water and wastewater facilities: exemption</i> | <i>Would exempt the operation of an alternative power source, as defined, to provide power to a critical facility, as defined, from any local, regional, or state regulation regarding the operation of that source. The bill would authorize providers of essential public services, in lieu of compliance with applicable legal requirements, to comply with the maintenance and testing procedure set forth in the National Fire Protection Association Standard for Emergency and Standby Power System, NFPA 110, for alternative power sources designated by the providers for the support of critical facilities.</i>           | SUPPORT<br><br>Assembly Utilities and Energy Committee<br><br>DROPPED BY AUTHOR |
| AB 2560     | Quirk<br><br>OCWD/CMUA Sponsored | Water quality: notification and response levels: procedures                    | The California Safe Drinking Water Act requires the State Water Resources Control Board to adopt drinking water standards for contaminants in drinking water based upon specified criteria and requires any person who owns a public water system to ensure that the system, among other things, complies with those drinking water standards. The act requires a public water system to provide prescribed notices within 30 days after it is first informed of a confirmed detection of a contaminant found in drinking water delivered by the public water system for human consumption that is in excess of a maximum contaminant | SUPPORT<br><br>Senate Environmental Quality Committee                           |

|        |   |  |  |   |
|--------|---|--|--|---|
|        |   |  | level, a notification level, or a response level established by the state board. This bill would require the state board to comply with specified public notice and comment and peer review procedures, as prescribed, when establishing or revising notification or response levels.  |   |
| ACA 1  | Aguiar-Curry  | Local government financing: affordable housing and public infrastructure: voter approval | The California Constitution prohibits the ad valorem tax rate on real property from exceeding 1% of the full cash value of the property, subject to certain exceptions. This measure would create an additional exception to the 1% limit that would authorize a city, county, city and county, or special district to levy an ad valorem tax to service bonded indebtedness incurred to fund the construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation, or replacement of public infrastructure, affordable housing, or permanent supportive housing, or the acquisition or lease of real property for those purposes, if the proposition proposing that tax is approved by 55% of the voters.   | SUPPORT<br><br>Assembly Floor-<br>first vote failed,<br>can be acted<br>upon Jan 2020 |
| SB 414 | Caballero<br><br><br><br><br><br><br>Eastern MWD/<br>CMUA | Small System Water Authority Act of 2019   | Would create the Small System Water Authority Act of 2019 and state legislative findings and declarations relating to authorizing the creation of small system water authorities that will have powers to absorb, improve, and competently operate noncompliant public water systems. The bill, no later than March 1, 2020, would require the state board to provide written notice to cure to all public agencies, private water companies, or mutual water companies that operate a public water system that has either less than 3,000 service connections or that serves less than 10,000 people, and are not in compliance, for the period from July 1, 2018, through December 31, 2019, with one or more state or federal primary drinking water standard maximum contaminant levels, as specified. | SUPPORT<br><br><br>2- year bill<br><br>Assembly<br>Approps                            |
| SB 667 | Hueso   | Greenhouse Gasses: Recycling Infrastructure and Facilities                               | Would require the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery to develop, on or before January 1, 2021, and would authorize the department to amend, a 5-year needs assessment to support innovation and technological and infrastructure development, in order to meet specified organic waste reduction and recycling targets, as provided.   | SUPPORT IF<br>AMENDED   |

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|         |                                      |  | The bill would require, on or before June 1, 2021, the department, in coordination with the Treasurer and the California Pollution Control Financing Authority, to develop financial incentive mechanisms, including, among other mechanisms, loans and incentive payments, to fund and accelerate public and private capital towards organic waste diversion and recycling infrastructure.  | 2-year bill<br>Assembly Appropriations                             |
| SB 996  | Portantino<br><br>MWD/CMUA           | SWRCB: Constituents of Emerging Concern      | <i>Would require the State Water Resources Control Board to establish by an unspecified date and then maintain an ongoing, dedicated program called the Constituents of Emerging Concern Program to support and conduct research to develop information and, if necessary, provide recommendations to the state board on constituents of emerging concern in drinking water that may pose risks to public health. The bill would require the state board to establish the Stakeholder Advisory Group and the Science Advisory Panel, both as prescribed, to assist in the gathering and development of information for the program, among other functions. The bill would require the program to provide opportunities for public participation, including conducting stakeholder meetings and workshops to solicit relevant information and feedback for development and implementation of the program.</i> | <i>Bill Dropped by Author to keep focus on emergency measures.</i> |
| SB 1052 | Hertzberg<br><br>CASA/CA Coastkeeper | Water Quality: Municipal Wastewater Agencies | <i>Would establish municipal wastewater agencies and would authorize a municipal wastewater agency, among other things, to enter into agreements with entities responsible for stormwater management for the purpose of managing stormwater and dry weather runoff, to acquire, construct, expand, operate, maintain, and provide facilities for specified purposes relating to managing stormwater and dry weather runoff, and to levy taxes, fees, and charges consistent with the municipal wastewater agency's existing authority in order to fund projects undertaken pursuant to the bill. The bill would require the exercise of any new authority granted under the bill to comply with the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000.</i>  | <i>Bill Dropped by Author to keep focus on emergency measures.</i> |



INFORMATION  
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# INNOVATIVE FEDERAL STRATEGIES, LLC

*Comprehensive Government Relations*

## MEMORANDUM

**To:** IEUA Community & Legislative Affairs Committee

**From:** Letitia White, Jean Denton, Drew Tatum, and Shavenor Winters

**Date:** July 31, 2020

**Re:** July Monthly Legislative Update

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### *House Approves Spending Packages*

The House on Friday, July 24 approved a \$259.5 billion four-bill package of spending bills for the 2021 fiscal year.

The package included the State and Foreign Operations; Agriculture; Interior and Environment; and Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations bills.

The first fiscal year 2021 appropriations bill passed largely along party lines in a 224-189 vote. Seven Democrats and the chamber's sole Independent joined every Republican in voting against the measure. Republican had previously expressed their objections to the legislation due to the inclusion of emergency spending titles not subject to the caps agreed to last year in the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2019.

In the measure, lawmakers rejected deep cuts proposed by President Trump to the State Department and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

The Foreign Operations division of the bill provides billions in foreign assistance to countries such as Israel, Egypt and Ukraine and money for counternarcotics operations in a number of Latin American countries.

The Agriculture division of the bill includes over \$1 billion to expand rural broadband, funds a slew of nutritional assistance programs and would give the Federal Drug Administration mandatory recall authority for prescription and over-the-counter drugs.

The Interior-Environment division funds arts and humanities programs and museums, including funding for the National Endowment for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Humanities, which Trump sought to eliminate in his budget. It also funds the Smithsonian Institution, the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts and the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum.

The package touches on a variety of hot-button political issues.

It would ensure funding for the World Health Organization, a body Trump vowed to cut ties and funding for, blaming it for the spread of the coronavirus.

It would block the “Mexico City policy,” which prevents U.S. funds from flowing to foreign aid and health organizations that support abortion rights.

It would block a controversial Trump administration rule that scientists and advocacy groups say would make it harder for the EPA to use some forms of commonly accepted science in its rulemaking process.

Finally, it would block Trump from using military construction funds to build the border wall and doesn’t backfill accounts he emptied to fund the wall using emergency powers.

Over the course of two days, the House adopted amendments that would block Trump's use of emergency authority to keep meat plants open as essential services during the pandemic, ban government contracts with any of Trump's businesses, and prevent drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

“This appropriations package addresses urgent national priorities,” said House Appropriations Committee Chairwoman Nita Lowey (D-NY). “I am proud that the package also includes strong emergency appropriations to confront coronavirus and support economic recovery, with investments in critical infrastructure and coronavirus preparedness, response, and relief domestically and globally,” she said.

Representative Kay Granger (R-TX), Ranking Member of the House Appropriations Committee, praised elements of the bill, but objected to “poison pill” policy provisions on issues such as immigration and abortion, as well as significant off-book spending increases.

“This bill supports the veterans who have honorably served our country, the diplomats who promote American businesses and our values around the world, the farmers and ranchers who put food on our tables, and the custodians of our parks and public lands who protect our national treasures. Unfortunately, I'm not able to support this bill before us because it has some fatal flaws,” she said on the floor.

“First, there are many policy provisions similar to the partisan legislation the majority has pushed through the House the last few months. And second, the spending levels exceeded the amounts the Congress and the president agreed to just last year,” Granger added.

The package included nearly \$40 billion of off-book spending that surpasses spending limits Republicans and Democrats agreed to last summer, almost all of it in emergency supplemental spending titles not subject to the budget caps agreed to in the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2019. Democrats added some \$250 billion of emergency and additional off-book spending total to the annual spending bills.

During the week of July 27, the House considered another package of six spending bills, including the Defense, Commerce, Justice, Science, Energy and Water Development, Financial Services and General Government, Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, Transportation, Housing, and Urban Development Appropriation bills.

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Under the measure, the Defense Department and related programs would receive \$694.6 billion in fiscal 2021, and \$71.5 billion would be allocated to the Commerce, Justice, Science bill.

The Energy and Water Development appropriation bill provides the Department and Army Corps of Engineers \$50.5 billion; a \$2.22 billion increase from fiscal 2020 and \$7.37 billion more than requested in the President's budget.

The Financial Services bill would include \$24.6 billion in regular discretionary funding with \$61 billion set aside in emergency funds for broadband infrastructure. While the Labor, Health and Human Services bill would receive \$196.5 billion a \$20 billion increase from what was included in the President's Budget.

In addition, the Transportation, Housing, and Urban Development bill included transportation and housing programs funded at \$158.3 billion. The total includes \$75.9 billion in discretionary funding, which would be \$1.7 billion more than fiscal 2020 and \$16.8 billion more than requested.

Democrats had hoped to unify around the Homeland bill after it was shelved last year amid divisions within the party over immigration policy. However, the Appropriations committee announced later that it would not be considering the Homeland bill and would remove it from consideration dropping the package's price tag from \$1.367 trillion to about \$1.316 trillion.

The only other bill of the 12 appropriation bills not being considered on the floor is the legislative branch bill, which was also scrapped last year over disagreements on increasing congressional pay.

On Friday, July 31 the House passed the second measure by a vote of 217 to 197, with all Republicans, the chamber's lone independent, and 12 Democrats voting against the measure. Republicans voted against the measure largely due to the same concerns they had with the first package.

Both spending packages face an unlikely path to the president's desk before the new fiscal year begins on October 1. Without funding bills or a continuing resolution — a stopgap measure that extends current funding levels — the government would shut down.

The Senate has hit a major roadblock in its own appropriations process and has failed to release or mark up any spending bills.

Democrats, led by Senate Appropriations Committee Vice Chairman Patrick Leahy (D-VT), have insisted on a process that would allow them to introduce amendments on emergency spending for COVID-19 and police reform, both issues addressed in the House bills. Senate Appropriations Chairman Richard Shelby (R-AL) has balked, saying such a move breached previous agreements on how to proceed on a bipartisan deal and that those issues should be addressed in separate legislation.

With the November election looming, Congress is increasingly likely to simply adopt a continuing resolution, which would prevent a shutdown by keeping current funding levels in place into the new fiscal year at least until after the election. Further talks on spending bills likely won't occur until after the election.

### ***Democrats Seek Additional Funding in Emergency Spending***

House Democrats are seeking to boost federal spending in the annual appropriations process by about \$250 billion in a move that would sidestep a budget deal reached last year with Republicans and the White House.

The proposed emergency spending for coronavirus relief, infrastructure, veterans care and a slew of other priorities would exceed the bipartisan budget caps on funding for annual appropriations bills.

While the proposed amount is just a fraction of the almost \$3 trillion approved by Congress for coronavirus relief this year, House Republicans say the gambit will complicate efforts to eventually reconcile spending bills with the GOP-controlled Senate.

The extra funding would cover a wide swath of issues, from rural broadband and transportation infrastructure to health care and global coronavirus relief. Taken together, the emergency measures represent a 39 percent increase in domestic spending over current levels.

In any other year, a quarter-trillion dollars tacked onto a series of regular spending bills would be unheard of, but the economic emergency caused by the pandemic has House Democrats seeking to include additional funding to fight COVID-19 and to make additional infrastructure investments they hope will help boost the economy.

Still, Republicans argue there is no need to continue the spending spree into fiscal 2021, which begins on October 1, especially if it means disregarding last year's budget deal.

At this time last year, the Democratic-controlled House, Republican Senate and White House were furiously negotiating an agreement to increase spending caps for both 2020 and 2021. Without a deal, there would have been major cuts in both defense and domestic spending.

Their eventual agreement laid out a path for \$1.367 trillion in spending for fiscal 2020, and just \$8 billion more for 2021.

But the Democratic bills introduced would bring discretionary spending to more than \$1.6 trillion for 2021, a 16 percent increase over current levels.

Even budget hawks have acknowledged that deficit spending is needed in times like these, with austerity reserved for boom times.

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The proposed emergency spending from Democrats faces a very steep uphill battle to becoming law. The House, which requires only a simple majority to pass spending bills, frequently sends the Senate partisan bills before negotiations get underway.

The Senate, which requires bipartisan majorities to pass spending legislation, often strips out controversial measures in favor of compromise provisions.

Senate Appropriations Committee Chairman Richard Shelby insists that emergency spending on the coronavirus crisis should be relegated to the bill that's being crafted in the Senate and should remain separate from the appropriations process.

That position has run into fierce opposition from Senate Democrats and prevented the appropriations process from moving forward in the chamber.

### ***House Moves Forward on Water Development Legislation***

A multibillion-dollar measure that would help build, repair, and maintain a wide variety of water infrastructure projects sailed through the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee on Wednesday, July 22.

Approved unanimously by voice vote, the Water Resources Development Act of 2020 (H.R. 7575) would authorize the Army Corps of Engineers every two years to carry out specific projects and feasibility studies.

The bill directs funds for 38 new projects and 35 studies that include repairing locks and dams on inland waterways to boost coastal shorelines against flooding and protecting the nation's waters against harmful algal blooms and other invasive species, such as the Asian carp.

It would direct the Army Corps to report on PFAS contamination of federally managed water projects. PFAS, or per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, dubbed forever chemicals, are used in firefighting foam and numerous consumer products and have been linked to health concerns.

The bill, which has bipartisan support, passed the House on Wednesday, July 29 under a suspension of the rules (requires a 2/3 majority) and by voice vote. The Senate Environment and Public Works (EPW) Committee has approved its own water resources bill that awaits a Senate vote.

In the Senate, the EPW Committee worked in a bipartisan fashion to introduce and unanimously advance two bills (S. 3590, S. 3591) to update the nation's water infrastructure and drinking water systems.

"The Committee looks forward to reviewing the bill when it is reported by T&I," Mike Danylak, Republican spokesman for the Senate environment committee, wrote Wednesday, July 22. EPW Committee Chairman John Barrasso (R-WY) has indicated a willingness to consider the House-

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passed bill in its current form, through the Senate would likely insist on amendments if it were considered on the floor.

House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee Chairman Peter DeFazio (D-OR) and Water and Environment Subcommittee Chairwoman Grace Napolitano (D-CA) joined Representatives Sam Graves (R-MO) and Bruce Westerman (R-AK) in introducing the legislation two days before the Committee vote.

DeFazio said H.R. 7575 “unlocks” \$10 billion sitting in the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund to meet the ongoing repair needs of the nation’s largest ports and the Great Lakes harbors, as well as other ports.

“We want them to be used for the intended purpose,” DeFazio said.

The Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund has been collected from shippers to fund much-needed repairs at the nation’s largest ports, including the ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach, which Napolitano said move 40 percent of the nation’s exports and imports.

The overwhelming majority of U.S. imports and exports depend on ports, and large amounts of grain, steel, coal, petroleum, and other commodities move by inland waterways, giving the Army Corps projects significance to virtually every state.

The bill also would increase the share of inland water infrastructure project costs from 50% from the general Treasury fund to 65%, while the remaining 35% would be funded by the Inland Waterways Trust Fund, which is based on fees levied on barge operators.

Democrats and Republicans supported the increase, saying the cost-share arrangement with the Inland Waterways Trust Fund has impeded projects in the past.

President Trump is expected to sign a final compromise Water Resources Development Act after it is negotiated by the House and Senate later this year.

### ***Great American Outdoors Act Heads to White House***

The House on Wednesday, July 22 approved a major public lands conservation bill, sending it to the White House where President Trump is expected to sign it into law.

The bill, known as the Great American Outdoors Act, would provide \$900 million in federal oil and gas revenues for the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF), which helps secure land for trails and parks.

The bipartisan legislation would also put billions toward addressing a maintenance backlog at national parks over a five-year period.

“For too long we have allowed our national parks to fall into disrepair,” Natural Resources Committee Chairman Raúl Grijalva (D-AZ) said on the House floor. “At the same time, we have

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failed to meet the full promise of the Land and Water Conservation fund...today we take the opportunity to remedy both of those failures.”

Though it had bipartisan support, the bill met resistance from some Republicans who argued that funds from oil and gas revenues could be put to other uses.

Representative Rob Bishop (R-UT) expressed concern that funding could dry up at times when there are fewer oil and gas revenues.

“It would be ludicrous for House Democrats to move forward with this bill without amendment,” he said in a statement, citing a report that showed that the government had taken in less money from offshore oil and gas drilling amid the pandemic.

The House legislation was spearheaded by a bipartisan group of 12 lawmakers and is popular among environmentalists. When the bill becomes law, it will end a years-long effort to ensure funding to preserve vast stretches of wilderness for recreation.

“This bill will have a positive impact on nearly every single congressional district in this country,” said Representative Brian (R-PA), one of the bill's co-sponsors. "Hundreds of businesses, recreation and environmental groups have come together to endorse our legislation."

The LWCF, which also provides money to protect endangered species habitats, develop parks and outdoor recreation sites and protect sensitive forests, was permanently authorized last year, but its funding was never guaranteed.

The bill would also provide \$1.9 billion annually for five years for national park maintenance. As of 2018, the maintenance backlog consisted of nearly \$12 billion worth of deferred repairs. The repairs have been delayed because of budget constraints.

The Great American Outdoors Act previously passed the Senate in a 73-25 vote after Trump called on Congress to “send me a Bill that fully and permanently funds the LWCF and restores our National Parks” in March.

### ***Senate Republicans Introduce 8 Bill COVID Relief Package***

On Monday, July 27, Senate Republicans introduced 8 bills, which together make up their next coronavirus relief package. Those bills, which together make up they refer to as the HEALS Act, include:

- Liability protections (S. 4317)
- Unemployment insurance, direct payments, health, and tax credits (S. 4318)
- Business meals deduction (S. 4319)
- Emergency appropriations (S. 4320)
- Small business aid programs (S. 4321)
- Child care and health programs (S. 4322)
- Trust fund solvency (S. 4323)

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- Supply chain, intellectual property, and stockpiles (S. 4324)

The package, which likely won't be considered on the floor, is the Senate's position in negotiations on the next stimulus measure, which would be the fifth major legislation responding to the Covid-19 pandemic. Leaders from both parties and the administration have started negotiations to try and reach a compromise on a final package.

Several key programs enacted in March under the CARES Act (Public Law 116-136), including unemployment benefits and protections against evictions, are set to expire at the end of July.

Additional funds for state and local governments and special districts were not included in the package, which will likely be a major sticking point in negotiations with the House where roughly \$1 trillion was included in the House-passed HEROES bill for state and local governments. There are also several non-coronavirus related provisions in the bill, including funding for a new FBI Headquarters, which Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell has said he'd like to see removed. The individual bills as part of the package were drafted by committees of jurisdiction in the Senate.

As part of the legislation supplemental unemployment benefits would be continued at a reduced level of \$200 per week, about \$300 billion in emergency funding would be provided, and the Paycheck Protection Program would be extended and modified under the \$1 trillion Covid-19 package unveiled by Senate Republicans.

The package would also shield employers, schools, and businesses, among other entities, from liability if they make "reasonable efforts" to follow public health guidelines to prevent the spread of Covid-19. Additional funding for schools and coronavirus testing would also be provided. Eligible individuals would receive another direct payment of as much as \$1,200.

The package would expand tax breaks for business meal and employee protection expenses, as well as for business that have hired or retained workers. It omits the payroll tax cut sought by President Trump.

Even as provision of the CARES Act are set to expire at the end of July, the House and Senate have not been able to come to an agreement on a temporary extension of expiring authorities.

On Thursday, July 30, the Senate voted 47-42 on the motion to proceed to the House message to accompany S.178, which was set to be used as the vehicle for an unemployment insurance extension. When Senator Martha McSally (R-AZ) moved to extend unemployment benefits for an additional week, Senator Chuck Schumer objected to the request calling it a "political stunt." Schumer then asked for unanimous consent that the Senate pass the HEROES Act, which was objected to by Senator Rob Portman (R-OH) who called Schumer's move "not serious."

The Senate wrapped up its work for the week of Thursday, July 31, but is scheduled to return on Monday, August 3 for what is scheduled to be the final session week before the traditional August recess. Negotiations over either a stand-alone unemployment extension or a larger coronavirus response bill could force a delay to the start of the recess.

House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer (D-MD) announced that lawmakers would be sent home on Friday, July 31 after consideration of the appropriations package subject to a 24-hour recall notice if an agreement is reached on an extension of the supplemental unemployment benefits or on a broader coronavirus response bill. While Hoyer had previously indicated that the House would not leave until a bill was passed, lawmakers will now leave town and return when a bill is ready to be considered.

The White House and Democrats in the House and Senate have indicated that they remain far apart on a compromise for the next coronavirus relief bill but remain committed to finding common ground.

### ***Administration Publishes New NEPA Rule***

President Donald Trump on Wednesday, July 15 announced a rewrite of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), which takes into account environmental and community impacts before approving new pipelines, highways, factories or drilling permits on federal lands.

The new rule no longer factors in the cumulative, indirect or direct impacts a project might have on the environment, sidestepping both an evaluation of the project's effects on climate change and the numerous ways the surrounding environment or nearby communities — could be disrupted.

The White House Council on Environmental Quality wrote in the new rule that “effects should generally not be considered if they are remote in time, geographically remote, or the product of a lengthy causal chain.”

The “remote in time” language could further prohibit consideration of climate change during environmental reviews.

That's not sitting well with environmentalists.

Sally Hardin, interim director of the Energy and Environment War Room at the Center for American Progress, explained the new rule this way: “When you're evaluating a pipeline, you look just at the pipeline. But the oil transmitted through the pipeline that will get transported and burnt and elsewhere — you don't have to consider the emissions from that.”

“That's really bad for climate change planning and for communities that are already overburdened by pollution. Not considering what you're adding to an environmental justice community that already has three polluting facilities is terrible,” she added, referring to communities facing environmental inequalities.

In a statement, the White House council argued that climate change might be factored in during certain evaluations.

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“Trends associated with a changing climate would, in appropriate cases, be characterized in the baseline analysis of the affected environment,” the council said in a statement.

But critics say the new rule will allow the administration, which has a history of sidelining climate science, to ignore a host of environmental implications from their decisions.

The Trump administration argues that federal agencies spend too much time trying to evaluate and categorize different kinds of project impacts and should instead evaluate them holistically.

Under the previous rule, the government would have to consider how runoff from the road might impact a nearby wetland, how emissions from the cars that would drive on that road would contribute not just to climate change but the air quality in the immediate area, as well as how the shift in traffic patterns could impact the town the road cuts through.

The revised rule would also make it harder for communities to challenge new development and may require people to pay a bond before filing a lawsuit, a provision experts say would likely be illegal if enforced.

The rule now requires communities challenging a project to submit detailed, technical comments — something that could require hiring legal or scientific consultants.

It also would prohibit communities from launching a legal challenge if they hadn’t already raised concerns during the NEPA process.

The rule departs from the White House council’s proposal in January that said companies preparing NEPA documents will have to disclose their conflicts of interest.

The final rule says it is “appropriate to allow applicants to prepare documents for the sake of efficiency.”

### ***Water Pollution Monitoring Slows During COVID***

More than 350 facilities nationwide have taken advantage of a temporary Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) rule that lets companies forgo monitoring their water pollution during the pandemic.

A total of 352 facilities, including fossil fuel companies, water treatment plants and schools, made use of the EPA's relaxation of Clean Water Act requirements, according to a list the agency shared with The Hill. At least one company on the list recently settled with the EPA to resolve allegations of Clean Water Act violations dating back to 2016.

Environmentalists are raising alarms over the number of facilities that are not monitoring their pollution levels, saying the damage could last well beyond the August 31, which is the expiration date of the temporary policy.

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On March 26, the EPA announced it would allow companies and others to pause their pollution monitoring if they could demonstrate hardship stemming from the coronavirus pandemic. The agency said the move would allow facilities to focus more on pollution controls and safety instead of sampling and monitoring.

Opponents argued that if companies are not required to monitor how much pollution they emit, they might exceed legal limits.

In a letter to lawmakers, EPA enforcement official Susan Parker Bodine indicated that about 300 facilities with permits for pollution discharges under the Clean Water Act would not be submitting monitoring reports. Instead, they would enter a special COVID-19 code into the EPA's tracking system.

"To date, out of over 49,600 facilities with a Clean Water Act discharge permit, only about 300 facilities have used the COVID-19 code," Bodine wrote. "This is about six tenths of one percent." The EPA has rejected the idea that the coronavirus monitoring suspension could lead to increased pollution.

An spokesperson for the agency said, "We have no data to support the premise that there is a correlation between facilities encountering difficulty in reporting due to the COVID-19 public health emergency and an increase in discharges from those facilities".

### ***Senate Confirms Budget Chief***

The Senate confirmed Russ Vought to lead the Office of Management and Budget on Monday, July 20 more than a year after he was tapped as interim director of the agency.

Vought's tenure as acting OMB director has drawn bipartisan scrutiny, including from Republicans who have opposed two failed attempts by the administration to yank back billions in foreign aid.

Democrats have criticized Vought for stonewalling congressional oversight demands, and last year he defied a subpoena after refusing to answer questions about the administration's decision to freeze hundreds of millions of dollars in military aid to Ukraine last summer.

That decision prompted House Democrats to launch an impeachment inquiry into whether President Donald Trump leveraged the aid for political favors. But Vought has maintained that the Ukraine aid freeze was part of a broader foreign aid review, not a quid pro quo.

Vought first took the helm of the White House budget office during the 35-day government shutdown in January 2019, after Trump tapped former OMB Director Mick Mulvaney as his acting chief of staff.

Senate Budget Chairman Mike Enzi (R-WY) lauded Vought's confirmation in a statement, adding that his "role will be crucial to help the federal government function in what is shaping up to be a very challenging budget environment that requires the attention of every one of us."

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“I look forward to working with him to help put our nation on a better fiscal path,” said Enzi, who’s retiring after this year.

Given the ongoing pandemic and strain on financial resources Vought is likely to continue to face a challenging tenure.

| Bill Number | Sponsor/ Cosponsor     | Title and/or Summary   | Summary/Status  | Latest Action  |
|-------------|------------------------|--|---|--|
| H.R. 7608   | Rep. Nita Lowey (D-NY) | First House Minibus Appropriations Package: State, Foreign Operations, Agriculture, Rural Development, Interior, Environment, Military Construction, and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Act, 2021 | <p>The \$259.5 billion four appropriation bill package included \$36.76 billion for the Interior, Environment spending bill in which the Environmental Protection Agency would receive a near-record \$9.38 billion and Interior would get \$13.83 billion in discretionary appropriations under the legislation.</p> <p>The measure includes \$15 billion for a new emergency critical infrastructure fund, \$2.35 billion for the wildfire suppression cap adjustment, and \$12.9 million in additional funds for research on PFAS, “forever chemicals” found in nonstick consumer goods and firefighting foam.</p> | <p>Representative Lowey, Chair of the House Appropriations Committee, introduced the first minibus on July 13, 2020.</p> <p>Amendments from members were due to the Committee on July 20, and the legislation passed in the House on July 24 by a vote on 224-189. Republicans voted against the measure unanimously, objecting to the "emergency" spending titles, which they say violates the Bipartisan Budget Act agreed to last year.</p> <p>The spending bills face an unlikely path to the president’s desk before the new fiscal year begins on October 1. Without funding bills or a continuing resolution — a stopgap measure that extends current funding levels — the government would shut down.</p> <p>Moreover, the Senate has yet to introduce their versions of the fiscal year 2021 appropriations bills, and are not expected to do so until after August recess.</p> |

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| H.R. 7617 | Rep. Pete Visclosky (D-IN) | Second House Minibus Appropriations Package: Defense, Commerce, Justice, Science, Energy and Water Development, Financial Services and General Government, Homeland Security, Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, Transportation, Housing, and Urban Development Appropriations Act, 2021 | The measure totals over \$1.3 trillion and included \$60 million for WaterSMART Grants; \$2.1 million for Water Conservation Field Services Program; \$4.179 million for Cooperative Watershed Management; \$2 million for Basin Studies; \$5 millions Drought Responses & Comprehensive Drought Plans; \$5 million for Basin Studies and \$63.665 million for Title XVI Water Reclamation and Reuse Program and an additional \$300 million in emergency appropriations for WaterSMART grants and \$50 million for the Title XVI program. | <p>The legislation was introduced in the House on July 16, 2020</p> <p>The measure passed the House by a vote of 217 to 197, with no Republicans supporting the bill and 12 Democrats joining them in opposition.</p> <p>The Senate has yet to introduce their versions of the fiscal year 2021 appropriations bill, and are not expected to do so until after August recess.</p> |
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| H.R. 7575 | Rep. DeFazio (D-OR)          | Water Resources Development Act of 2020  | <p>The legislation would help build, repair, and maintain a wide variety of water infrastructure projects.</p> <p>In addition, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers would be authorized to start several navigation, flood control, storm damage, and other water-related infrastructure projects. The bill also directs the Corps to undertake an inventory of water resources development projects and associated properties that are or may be contaminated with PFAS, and to develop a plan to remediate and limit potential human exposure to the contamination. In Southern California, the Corps would be required to expedite a study on the Seven Oaks Dam related to adding additional authorized purposes.</p> | <p>The bill was introduced July 13, 2020.</p> <p>The measure was favorably approved out of committee on July 24, 2020 and passed the House on July 31, 2020 by voice vote.</p> <p>After passing the House the bill is now awaiting consideration in the Senate. Senate EPW Committee Chairman John Barasso (R-WY) has indicated a willingness to consider the House-passed bill.</p>    |
| H.R. 6084 | Rep. Suzanne Bonamici (D-OR) | Water Power Research and Development Act | <p>To provide for a program of hydropower, pumped storage, and marine energy research, development, demonstration, and commercial application, and for other purposes.</p>  | <p>The legislation was introduced on March 4, 2020 and referred to the Subcommittee on Energy of the House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.</p> <p>On March 12, 2020, the Subcommittee on Energy held a Mark-up Session, and the legislation forwarded by the Subcommittee to Full Committee for Voice Vote.</p> <p>No actions on the bill have been taken since March.</p> |

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| H.R. 2    | Rep. DeFazio (D-OR)        | Moving Forward Act                        | <p>The bill combines multiple pieces of legislation to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit program.</p> <p>The measure includes \$25 billion for drinking water, \$100 billion for broadband, \$70 billion for clean energy projects, \$100 billion for low income schools, \$30 billion to upgrade hospitals, \$100 billion in funding for public housing and \$25 billion for the postal service and allocates approximately \$500 billion to further green efforts.</p> | <p>The legislation was introduced in the House on June 11, 2020.</p> <p>On June 17, 2020 the Subcommittee on Highways and Transit discharged the measure and the bill for consideration by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.</p> <p>Following the mark up the bill was ordered to be reported out of committee. On Monday, June 29, 2020 the Rules Committee met to discuss the procedure and rules for the bill's consideration on the House floor.</p> <p>The House voted on the measure on Wednesday, July 1 and passed the legislation by a vote of 233 – 188.</p> |
| H.R. 6622 | Rep. David McKinley (R-WV) | Assuring Quality Water Infrastructure Act | <p>The bill amends the Safe Water Drinking Act to establish a grant program for improving operational sustainability by small public water systems.</p> <p>The bill would authorize \$5 million to execute this program for each of the fiscal years 2021 - 2025.</p>   | <p>The legislation was introduced on April 24, 2020, and referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.</p>   |

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| H.R.6800 | Rep. Nita Lowey (D-NY) | The HEROES Act | <p>The bill provides over \$3 trillion to federal agencies, state and local governments, small businesses, and individuals.</p> <p>The measure also would authorize and provide \$5 billion for the Housing and Urban Development Department's Community Development Block Grant program. The grant funds would have to be allocated to state and local recipients within 30 days of the bill's enactment according to an existing formula. Emergency grants could be made over 121 consecutive months, instead of three months, for entities that provide families with food, clothing, housing, and more.</p> <p>In addition, outlined within the legislation, and some would say key to successfully reopening, the measure would authorize and appropriate \$75 billion for a Covid-19 National Testing and Contact Tracing initiative.</p> | <p>The legislation was introduced on May 12, 2020.</p> <p>On May 15, 2020 the measure passed the House by a vote of 208 - 199.</p> <p>The bill has not been well received in the Senate. Majority Leader Mitch McConnell(R-KY) has indicated that a Senate version will likely be notably different than the House passed version. The Senate is expected to consider a measure after the July 4th recess.</p> |
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| <p>S.3752 /<br/>H.R.6954</p> | <p>Sen. Robert Menendez (D-NJ) / Sen. Bill Cassidy (R-LA)</p> <p>Reps. Mikie Sherril (D-NJ) / Rep. Peter King (R-NY)</p> | <p>SMART Act</p> | <p>The State and Municipal Assistance for Recovery and Transition (SMART) Act targets \$500 billion in emergency funding to every state, county and community in the country, while prioritizing assistance to the areas with the greatest need.</p> <p>These funds could be used to help state and local governments meet the current demand, expand testing capacity and contact tracing, provide further assistance to residents, local hospitals, small businesses and schools, in addition to maintaining critical services residents depend upon. The funding would be divided into equal thirds to provide funding based on population size, infection rates, and revenue losses.</p> | <p>The legislation was introduced on May 18 in the Senate and on May 19 in the House.</p> <p>Either a substitute amendment or new legislation negotiated by the bipartisan group of Members is expected to be introduced reflecting updated provisions agreed to by the coalition.</p> <p>The legislation has been referred to the respective committees of jurisdiction in the House and Senate.</p> <p>The Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs held a hearing on the legislation on June 2.</p> |
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| H.R.7073 | Rep. John Garamendi<br>(D-CA)                       | Special Districts Provide Essential<br>Services Act | <p>The legislation would provide special districts access to the Coronavirus Relief Fund established in the CARES Act (H.R.748). The Coronavirus Relief Fund, as enacted, provided \$150 billion for the remainder of fiscal year 2020, which ends on September 30, 2020, for State and Tribal governments and units of local governments.</p> <p>Special districts would also be determined “eligible issuers” for the Federal Reserve’s Municipal Liquidity Facilities Program.</p> | <p>The legislation was introduced on June 1, 2020 and referred to the House Committee on Oversight and Reform and Committee on Financial Services.</p>  |
| S.3591   | Sen. John Barrasso<br>(R-WY) / Tom Carper<br>(D-DE) | America’s Water Infrastructure<br>Act of 2020       | <p>Provides roughly \$17 billion in new federal authorizations to invest in infrastructure projects across the country, sets a 2-year goal for completing feasibility studies for potential projects by the Corps, and reauthorizes the WIFIA program administered by the EPA.</p>  | <p>The legislation was introduced on May 4, 2020, and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.</p> <p>On May 11, 2020, the legislation was reported by Senator Barrasso with an amendment in the nature of a substitute, and placed on the Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders.</p> <p>The legislation has bipartisan cosponsorship.</p> |

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| S.3590 | Sen. John Barrasso (R-WY) / Tom Carper (D-DE)           | Drinking Water Infrastructure Act of 2020              | <p>The measure would provide roughly \$2.5 billion in authorizations, including reauthorizing a Safe Drinking Water Act emergency fund, and \$300 million in grants for cleaning drinking water of emerging contaminants, particularly toxic PFAS.</p>  | <p>The legislation was introduced on May 4, 2020, and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.</p> <p>On May 11, 2020, the legislation was reported by Senator Barrasso with an amendment in the nature of a substitute, and placed on the Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders.</p> <p>The legislation has bipartisan cosponsorship.</p>               |
| S.1932 | Sen. Cory Gardner (R-CO) / Sen. Dianne Feinstein( D-CA) | Drought Resiliency and Water Supply Infrastructure Act | <p>This legislation would authorize and/or reauthorize surface and groundwater storage and supporting projects, water recycling and reuse projects, and desalination projects. It would also establish an infrastructure finance and innovation pilot program at the Bureau of Reclamation. The legislation would also establish a process to deauthorize Bureau of Reclamation projects that have failed to receive a minimum federal investment or initiate construction.</p> <p>The bill would increase support for water infrastructure projects that are likely to provide a more-reliable water supply and increase the water management flexibility and water reliability.</p> | <p>The legislation was introduced on June 20, 2019. The Water and Power Subcommittee of the Energy and Natural Resources Committee held hearings on July 18, 2019.</p> <p>A markup has not been scheduled due to disagreements between the Ranking Member and Sponsors of the legislation.</p> <p>Senator Dianne Feinstein is expected to release an updated version of the bill.</p> |

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| H.R. 1957<br>(previously<br>S.3422) | Sen. Cory Gardner (R-CO)  | Great American Outdoors Act | <p>The legislation would create a National Parks and Public Lands Legacy Restoration Fund with income from 50% of the energy development revenues from oil, gas, coal, or alternative renewable energy from Federal land from fiscal years 2021 to 2025 for deferred maintenance projects in the National Park System, National Wildlife Refuge System, on BLM Public Lands, BIA Schools, or the National Forest.</p> <p>The legislation would also establish permanent funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund that would not require further appropriations from Congress.</p> | <p>The legislation was introduced on 3/9/2020 in the Senate. The legislation has 59 cosponsors, including Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY) who has indicated he plans to fast track the legislation in the Senate. While there were initially plans to consider the legislation in March, the Senate's schedule was changed to consider the third coronavirus response bill.</p> <p>The legislation passed the Senate by a vote of 73-25 on June 17.</p> <p>The House agreed to the Senate amendments on July 22 by a vote of 310 - 107. The legislation was sent to the President on July 24.</p> |
| Draft Legislation                   | Rep. Jared Huffman (D-CA) | FUTURE Drought Act          | <p>Representative Huffman's draft legislation includes three titles on: Infrastructure Development, Improved Technology and Data, and Ecosystem Protection and Restoration. The draft legislation would create a water storage program, includes authorization of funding for desalination projects, created an water infrastructure fund, and extends and expands the WaterSMART program.</p>  | <p>Much of this legislation was incorporated into H.R.2 (information above).</p>  |
| S. 2356                             | Sen. Mike Braun (R-IN)    | Define WOTUS Act of 2019    | <p>The measure would create a new WOTUS definition the void the previous Obama era definition that is currently tied up in litigation.</p>  | <p>The legislation was introduced on July 31, 2019 and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.</p>   |

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| S. 1087   | Sen. John Barrasso (R-WY)  | Water Quality Certification Improvement Act of 2019 | The measure would amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to make changes with respect to water quality certification.  | <p>The measure was introduced in the Senate on April 19, 2019 and was referred to Committee on Environment and Public Works.</p> <p>On November 19, 2019 the committee held a hearing to discuss impacts of the act if implemented.</p> |
| H.R. 1764 | Rep. John Garamendi (D-CA) | The bill to amend the Federal Water Pollution Act   | The legislation would amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act with respect to permitting terms, and for other purposes. | <p>Introduced on March 15, 2019 and then referred to the Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment.</p> <p>This legislation has bipartisan cosponsorship and hearings were held on the measure in November 2019.</p>              |

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| H.R.1497 | Rep. Peter DeFazio (D-OR) | Water Quality Protection and Job Creation Act of 2019 | <p>Requires a report to Congress on the current and future workforce needs for publicly owned treatment works and information on steps taken to meet those needs.</p> <p>Reauthorizes sections of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act that provide grants to States and interstate agencies, including:</p> <p>State Management Assistance: Section 106(a);</p> <p>Watershed Pilot Projects: Section 122(c);</p> <p>Alternative Water Source Projects Pilot Program: Section 220(d);</p> <p>Sewer Overflow and Stormwater Reuse Municipal Grants: Section 221(f)(1); and</p> <p>State Water Pollution Control Revolving Funds.</p> <p>Changes the length of permits for NPDES permits to not exceeding 10 years in certain circumstances.</p> | <p>Introduced on March 6, 2019 and referred to the Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment of the House Transportation Committee.</p> <p>The Committee marked up the legislation and reported it with an amendment in the nature of a substitute--expanding the scope of the legislation.</p> |
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| H.R. 1508 / S. 146 | Rep. Blumenauer (D-OR) / Sen. John Hoeven (R-ND) | Move America Act of 2019                       | <p>The measure would amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for Move America bonds and Move America credits which would be applicable to projects relating to flood diversions, inland waterways, sewage facilities.</p>  | <p>The House bill was introduced on March 5, 2019 and then referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.</p> <p>Note: All tax issues are likely to be addressed as part of a larger tax package. The Ways and Means Committee is considering forming a tax extenders package, which would be the most likely venue for this legislation.</p> <p>The Senate bill was introduced in the Senate on January 16th and referred to the Senate Committee on Finance.</p> |
| H.R.1162           | Rep. Grace Napolitano (D-CA)                     | Water Recycling Investment and Improvement Act | <p>This legislation would create a competitive grant program for the funding of water recycling and reuse projects by raising the authorization cap for the Title XVI program from \$50 million to \$500 million. The legislation would also raise the authorization cap from \$20 million to \$30 million for the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act.</p> | <p>Introduced in the House on February 13, 2019.</p> <p>The House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Water, Oceans, and Wildlife held a hearing on the legislation on June 13, 2019.</p> <p>On March 11, 2020, the House Natural Resources Committee held a mark-up on the legislation and it was ordered to be reported out of Committee by a vote of 19-12.</p> <p>Elements of the bill were incorporated into H.R.2 (above).</p>                                     |
| S. 361/H.R. 807    | Sen. Cory Gardner (R-CO) / Rep. Ken Buck (R-CO)  | Water and Agriculture Tax Reform Act of 2019   | <p>The measure would work to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to facilitate water leasing and water transfers to promote conservation and efficiency.</p>  | <p>Introduced and referred to the Committee on Finance (Senate) and Ways and Means Committee (House). Neither chamber has recently engaged on the measures.</p>  |

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| H.R.579   | Rep. Scott Tipton (R-CO)          | Water Rights Protection Act of 2019               | This bill would prohibit the conditioning of any permit, lease, or other use agreement on the transfer of any water right to the United States by the Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture, and for other purposes.                                | <p>Introduced in the House on January 15th. Referred to the Conservation and Forestry Subcommittee of the Agriculture Committee on 2/7 and to the Water, Oceans, and Wildlife Subcommittee of the House Natural Resources Committee on 2/4.</p> <p>A similar amendment was submitted to the House Rules Committee for consideration in the Interior-Environment Appropriations bill, but was not made in order by the Committee for floor consideration.</p> |
| H.R.34    | Rep. Eddie Bernice Johnson (D-TX) | Energy and Water Research Integration Act of 2019 | The legislation would ensure consideration of water intensity in the Department of Energy's energy research, development, and demonstration programs to help guarantee efficient, reliable, and sustainable delivery of energy and clean water resources. | The bill was introduced in the House on January 3, 2019. It was marked up and ordered to be reported by the House Science and Technology Committee on May 1, 2019 and was passed by the House on July 23, 2019 by voice vote. On July 24, the bill was referred to the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.   |
| H.R. 2313 | Rep. Jared Huffman (D-CA)         | Water Conservation Rebate Tax Parity Act          | The measure would amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to expand the exclusion for certain conservation subsidies to include subsidies for water conservation or efficiency measures and storm water management measures.                              | <p>The bill was introduced in the House on April 12, 2019 and then referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.</p> <p>Note: All tax issues are likely to be addressed as part of a larger tax package. The Ways and Means Committee is considering forming a tax extenders package, which would be the most likely venue for this legislation.</p>  |

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| H.R.1747 | Rep. Rob Wittman (R-VA) | National Fish Habitat Conservation Through Partnerships Act | The measure aims to achieve measurable habitat conservation results through strategic actions of Fish Habitat Partnerships that lead to better fish habitat conditions and increased fishing opportunities, establish a consensus set of national conservation strategies as a framework to guide future actions and investment by Fish Habitat Partnerships, broaden the community of support for fish habitat conservation, fill gaps in the National Fish Habitat Assessment and the associated database of the National Fish Habitat Assessment, and communicate to the public and conservation partners. | A hearing has been held in the House Natural Resources Committee on the legislation and the legislation was ordered to be reported out of committee on September 25, 2019. |
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| S.1419    | Sen. James Lankford<br>(R-OK) | Early Participation in Regulations Act                     | <p>The legislation would direct agencies to issue advanced notices for rules costing more than \$100 million annually. The bill would require agencies must outline the problem the rule intends to solve and listen to the public's input on the subject.</p> | <p>On May 13, the bill was introduced into the Senate. It was then referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs. Hearings on the bill were held in both the Committee on Homeland Security and the Committee on Small Business. On July 19 the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs ordered the measure to be reported favorably with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.</p> <p>On September 10, the bill was placed on the Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. However the bill has yet to be considered on the Senate floor.</p> <p>The legislation has bipartisan cosponsor ship.</p> |
| S. 1087   | Sen. John Barrasso (R-WY)     | Water Quality Certification Improvement Act of 2019        | <p>The measure would amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to make changes with respect to water quality certification.</p>  | <p>The measure was introduced in the Senate on April 19 and was referred to Committee on Environment and Public Works.</p> <p>On November 19 the committee held a hearing to discuss impacts of the act if implemented.</p>   |
| H.R. 1695 | Rep. Betty McCollum<br>(D-MN) | Community Services Block Grant Reauthorization Act of 2019 | <p>The legislation would amend the Community Services Block Grant Act to reauthorize and modernize the Act.</p>  | <p>The measure was introduced in the House on March 12, 2019 to the House Committee on Education and Labor.</p> <p>The legislation has bipartisan cosponsor ship.</p>   |

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| H.R. 1744 | Rep. Mark Takano (D-CA)     | S.T.O.R.A.G.E. Act (Storage Technology for Operational Readiness And Generating Energy Act)<br>Energy Storage Systems by Electric Utilities | The bill would provide for the consideration of energy storage systems by electric utilities as part of a supply side resource process, and for other purposes.   | The bill was introduced on March 13, 2019 and the referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Subcommittee on Energy of the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.  |
| H.R.579   | Rep. Scott Tipton (R-CO)    | Water Rights Protection Act of 2019   | This bill would prohibit the conditioning of any permit, lease, or other use agreement on the transfer of any water right to the United States by the Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture, and for other purposes.  | Introduced in the House on January 15th. Referred to the Conservation and Forestry Subcommittee of the Agriculture Committee on February 7, 2019 and to the Water, Oceans, and Wildlife Subcommittee of the House Natural Resources Committee on February 4, 2019. |
| H. R. 855 | Rep. Scott Peters (D-CA)    | STRONG (Strengthening the Resiliency of our Nation on the Ground Act) Act   | The bill would work to minimize the economic and social costs resulting from losses of life, property, well-being, business activity, and economic growth associated with extreme weather events by ensuring that the United States is more resilient to the impacts of extreme weather events in the short- and long-term, and for other purpose | Introduced in the House and referred to the Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings, and Emergency Management of the House Transportation Committee on February 7, 2019.  |
| H.R. 420  | Rep. Earl Blumenauer (D-OR) | Regulate Marijuana Like Alcohol Act   | The bill would decriminalize marijuana and sets up legal framework to regulate marijuana.   | Introduced in the House on January 9, 2019 and referred to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, Ways and Means, Natural Resources, and Agriculture.  |

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| S.420 /H.R. 1120 | Sen. Ron Wyden (D-OR) / Rep. Earl Blumenauer (D-OR) | Marijuana Revenue and Regulation Act                 | A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the taxation and regulation of marijuana products, and for other purposes. | <p>The bill was introduced in the Senate on February 7, 2019 and was referred to the Finance Committee.</p> <p>Introduced in the House on February 8, 2019 and was referred to the Committees on Judiciary, Agriculture, and Natural Resources.</p>   |
| H.R. 3794        | Rep. Paul A. Gosar (R-AZ)                           | Public Land Renewable Energy Development Act of 2019 | The bill would work to promote the development of renewable energy on public lands  | <p>The measure was introduced in the House on July 17, 2019 and was then referred to both the Committee on Natural Resources and the Committee on Agriculture. A hearing on the bill was held on July 25 by the Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources. On August 9th, the bill was referred to the Subcommittee on Conservation and Energy of the House Agriculture Committee.</p> <p>The measure was later referred to the Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources where a hearing was held on the legislation. On November 20, 2019, a Mark-up session was held and the bill was ordered to be Reported by Voice Vote.</p> <p>The legislation has bipartisan cosponsorship.</p> |

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| S. 1344 | Sen. Cory Booker (D-NJ)<br>and Tim Scott (R-SC) | Reinstate Opportunity Zone Data Mandates | <p>The bill would require the Secretary of the Treasury to collect data and issue a report on the opportunity zone tax incentives enacted by the 2017 tax reform legislation.</p> <p>The reporting requirements were part of the original legislation as introduced, but they were not incorporated in H.R.1 (the tax package) when it was advanced in the House and Senate.</p>   | <p>The legislation was introduced in the Senate on May 7, 2019 and referred to the Finance Committee.</p> <p>The legislation has bipartisan cosponsor ship.</p>   |
| H.R.535 | Rep. Debbie Dingell (D-MI)                      | PFAS Action Act of 2019                  | <p>The legislation combines 12 different bills that had previously been introduced into one legislative package that would change the way the federal government regulates “forever chemicals” known as PFAS.</p> <p>The consolidated version of H.R. 535 would place these chemicals on the Superfund hazards substances list from the Environmental Protection Agency, force the agency to set nationwide drinking water standards for PFAS, and block companies from producing new chemicals in this class.</p> | <p>The legislation was reported out of the House Energy and Commerce Committee on November 20, 2019 by a vote of 31 to 19, largely along party lines. The bill passed the House on January 10, 2020 by a vote of 247 - 159. The bill was received in the Senate on January 13, 2020 and referred to the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works. The legislation is not expected to be considered in the Senate in its current form.</p> |

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| H.R.4236   | Rep. Quigley, Mike (D-IL)                              | Reducing Waste in National Parks Act          | The legislation would encourage recycling and reduction of disposable plastic bottles in units of the National Park System,   | <p>The bill was introduced on September 6, 2019 and was referred to the House Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests, and Public Lands.</p> <p>The House Natural Resources Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests, and Public Lands held hearings on the legislation on February 27, 2020.</p>   |
| S.3263 / H.R.5845  | Sen. Tom Udall (D-N.M.) and Rep. Alan Lowenthal (D-CA) | Break Free from Plastic Pollution Act of 2020 | This legislation would require plastic producers to take responsibility for collecting and recycling materials, require nationwide container deposits, ban certain pollutant products, impose a fee on the distribution of non-reusable carryout bags, create a new minimum recycled content requirement, protect state and local governments by allowing them to enact more stringent standards, requirements, and additional product bans, and give environmental agencies the valuable time needed to investigate the cumulative impacts of new plastic-producing facilities on the air, water, and climate. | <p>The bills were introduced in the House on 2/12/2020 and in the Senate on 2/11/2020. In the House, the legislation has been referred to the following committees: Energy and Commerce, Ways and Means, Transportation and Infrastructure, and Foreign Affairs.</p> <p>In the Senate, the legislation has been referred to the Finance Committee.</p> |
| Enacted Legislation (removed from report after 2 months) |  |   |   |  |

# **INFORMATION**

ITEM

**2E**



CALIFORNIA STRATEGIES, LLC

Date: July 30, 2020  
To: Inland Empire Utilities Agency  
From: John Withers, Jim Brulte  
Re: California Strategies, LLC July 2020 Activity Report

1. This month Jim Brulte and John Withers participated in the monthly senior staff meeting July 6th via MS Teams due to the Coronavirus.
2. California Strategies is providing the General Manager and senior staff daily updates on the Governors' press conferences through Kathy Besser. California Strategies is also providing information from other leading agencies related to the COVID-19 response.
3. California Strategies is also providing current information on the State Budget and activities of the Governor and Legislature related to it.
4. Regional Contract
  - There was brief discussion regarding the Regional Contract.
5. Chino Basin Program
  - There was a suggestion and agreement to engage Brian Thomas on financing alternatives.
6. Discussed July Board item recommending deferral of all rates for one year.
7. Discussed regional personnel changes and potential impacts at IEUA
8. Member Questions and Answers
  - Answered questions from IEUA Board members and the GM since the meeting