

June 3, 2021

The Honorable Peter DeFazio, Chairman Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure U.S. House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Grace Napolitano, Chairwoman Subcommittee on Water Resources & Environment Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure U.S. House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

## SUBJECT: EMWD Supports H.R. 1915, the Water Quality Protection and Job Creation Act

Dear Chairman DeFazio and Chairwoman Napolitano:

On behalf of Eastern Municipal Water District (EMWD), we are writing to express our support for H.R. 1915, the Water Quality Protection and Job Creation Act of 2021.

Eastern Municipal Water District (EMWD) is the water, wastewater service, and recycled water provider to more than 855,000 people living and working within a 555-square mile service area in western Riverside County. We are California's sixth-largest retail water agency and our mission is to deliver value to our customers and the communities we serve by providing safe, reliable, economical and environmentally sustainable water, wastewater and recycled water services.

EMWD is pleased to support H.R. 1915, the Water Quality Protection and Job Creation Act of 2021 that provides substantial federal funding assistance to address sewer and wastewater infrastructure in communities across the country. Importantly, the bill reauthorizes the successful Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF), the primary source of federal financing assistance for wastewater infrastructure construction.

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Additionally, H.R. 1915 will make major investments in water reuse and resiliency programs. In particular, we thank you for reauthorizing the Alternative Water Source grant program which will ensure that communities in all 50 states can access federal funding to develop water recycling and other water conservation efforts.

Further, EMWD supports the legislation's reauthorization of the Sewer Overflow and Stormwater Reuse Grant Program, as well as an authorization for new grant program for the pretreatment of emerging contaminants like PFAS. As you know, the introduction of these types of constituents occur outside of our agencies' control, and financial assistance to address such pollutants is vital to ensuring the delivery of high quality water.

Thank you for your leadership on these important issues.

Sincerely,

Phílip Paule Board President

Joe Mouawad, P.E. General Manager