

# City of Atwater



CITY CLERK/HUMAN RESOURCES  
750 BELLEVUE ROAD  
ATWATER, CALIFORNIA 95301

## OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

February 13, 2017

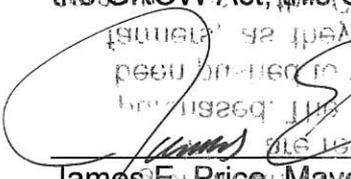
The Honorable David G. Valadao  
1728 Longworth Building  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Representative Valadao,

California's Central Valley, which provides the majority of fruits and vegetables for the country, has been suffering from a drought, which has been made worse by federal regulations. As a result, over 300 billion gallons of water have been diverted away from the region in an effort to protect the Delta Smelt. Today, citizens and farmers in the Central Valley are receiving less water, if any at all, than they previously contracted for and purchased. The water system that established California as a beacon of ingenuity has been pushed to the wayside for a bait fish and has had devastating consequences for farmers, as they now fallow thousands of acres of farmland. In addition, many communities in the Central Valley have run completely dry, and have resorted to relying solely on trucks to deliver potable water to residents.

For years, you have fought to bring water back to the valley; this year is no different. We support your introduction of H.R. 23, the Gaining Responsibility on Water (GROW) Act of 2017. This legislation would ensure reliable water deliveries for our valley, secure private property and senior water rights, and save millions of dollars by ending wasteful protectionist plans. To ensure water reliability in the future, the bill obligates the federal government to complete feasibility studies for multiple water storage projects in California and increases the scope of investigation for dam safety throughout the West, including expansion.

Now is the time to enact long term meaningful solutions to California's water supply issues and we are hopeful this legislation is the next step in addressing the challenges we face. The City of Atwater looks forward to working with you on advancing H.R. 23, the GROW Act, this Congress.

  
James E. Price, Mayor

**RESOLUTION NO. 2507**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SHAFTER  
SUPPORTING H.R. 23 THE GAINING RESPONSIBILITY ON WATER (GROW) ACT**

**WHEREAS**, H.R. 23 the Gaining Responsibility on Water (GROW) Act of 2017 would enact long term, meaningful solutions by modernizing water policies throughout the entire Western United States, including in the State of California; and

**WHEREAS**, the GROW Act would address the underlying policy failures that continue to contribute to increasingly severe drought conditions in communities across the West to provide drought relief in the State of California.

**WHEREAS**, the GROW Act would ensure water reliability in the future, and obligates the federal government to complete feasibility studies for multiple water storage projects in California and increases the scope of investigation for dam safety throughout the West, including expansion. It would eliminate a number of regulatory hurdles that have delayed construction authorized by Congress for over a decade, and it would impose deadlines to finish feasibility studies on proposals for the Sites Dam along the Sacramento River and the Temperance Flat Dam along the San Joaquin River; and

**WHEREAS**, by codifying the bipartisan Bay-Delta Accord as a federal law, the GROW Act would require regulators to restore water deliveries to Central California users consistent with Endangered Species Act requirements.

**WHEREAS**, the GROW Act would include provisions that update the Central Valley Project Improvement Act to ensure water resources are reliable, predictable, and available to fulfill water supply promises.

**WHEREAS**, the GROW Act would also enact “one-stop-shop” permitting reforms aimed at building infrastructure to capture more water.

**WHEREAS**, the GROW Act would prevent federal agencies from requiring certain entities to relinquish their water rights to the United States in order to use public lands.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the City Council of the City of Shafter supports H.R. 23 the Gaining Responsibility on Water (GROW) Act of 2017.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 7<sup>th</sup> OF FEBRUARY, 2017.**

  
Cathy L. Prout, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Yazmina Pallares, Deputy City Clerk

