

GRAVELLY FORD WATER DISTRICT



18811 Road 27 · Madera, CA 93638 (559)·474·1000 Fax: (559) 673· 1086
email: donroberts717@gmail.com

February 24,, 2017

Board of Directors

Steven Emmert, Pres.
Seth Kirk, V. Pres.
Kenneth Basila
Diane Kirk
Paul Stewart

Manager

Don Roberts

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

Dear Congressman Valadao:

Gravelly Ford Water District (GFWD) appreciates the continued dedication you and the other Valley Congressman have brought to Valley water issues for many years. GFWD commends you for introducing H.R. 23, the guiding Responsibility on Water Act of 2017, which promotes a comprehensive approach to solving the California water crisis especially for the San Joaquin Valley.

The current drought and regulatory constraints have been catastrophic for the Valley's communities, businesses, and population. The approximate annual shortfall is 2.5 million acre-feet and, H.R. 23 is a timely and comprehensive approach to eliminating this shortfall.

H.R. 23 includes many common-sense provisions that were included in similar proposed legislation in the past. Title IV of the bill includes specific provisions related to the 2009 San Joaquin River Settlement Act. As you know, Friant Water Authority (FWA) has formally expressed a number of concerns regarding the viability of the San Joaquin River Restoration Program (SJRRP) as contemplated by the Settlement and the Settlement Act. GFWD supports FWA's request that the Settlement Parties join in a process to examine the Settlement and realize implementation of a SJRRP in a manner that is reasonable, prudent, and feasible.

Thank you for your efforts to bring a fair and balanced approach to water issues for the benefit of the entire population. We look forward to working with you and your colleagues in trying to achieve success.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in red ink that reads "Steven Emmert".

Steven Emmert
President