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January 20, 2017

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

Dear Representative Valadao,

California's Central Valley, which provides the majority of fruits and vegetables for the country, has been suffering from historic drought conditions. These conditions have been made worse by inflexible federal regulations that divert much-needed water deliveries away from the Central Valley. As a result, farmers are fallowing thousands of acres of farmland, wells have gone completely dry, and communities have resorted to relying on trucks to deliver potable water to residents.

For years, you have fought to bring water back to the Central Valley and this year is no different. Kings County Farm Bureau supports 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. This bill obligates the federal government to complete feasibility studies for multiple water projects in California and increases the scope of investigation for dam safety throughout the West, including expansion, to ensure water reliability in the future.

Now is the time to enact long-term, meaningful solutions to California's water supply problems and we are hopeful this legislation is the next step in addressing the serious challenges faced by Californians. We look forward to working with you on advancing the GROW Act through Congress.

Sincerely,

Josh Bettencourt  
President