



January 31, 2017

# County of Fresno

**CHAIRMAN  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
SUPERVISOR BRIAN PACHECO – DISTRICT ONE**

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

Dear Congressman 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 resulting in 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.

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. 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. We look forward to working with you on advancing H.R. 23, the GROW Act.

Sincerely,

Brian Pacheco, Chairman-District 1

Sal Quintero, Vice Chairman-District 3

Andreas Borgeas-District 2

Buddy Mendes-District 4

Nathan Magsig-District 5