



January, 29, 2014

Assembly Member Anthony Rendon, AD 63
Chair, Assembly Water Bond Working Group
State Capitol Room 2136
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: AB 1331(Rendon) Clean and Safe Drinking Water Act of 2014
Support as Amended 01/07/14**

Assembly Member Rendon:

On behalf of the Los Angeles County Division of the League of California Cities (Division), representing 86 cities in the County, we express our support for AB 1331 (Rendon), the Clean and Safe Drinking Water Act of 2014, as amended on January 7, 2014. Additionally, we support replacing the existing \$11.14 billion Water Bond that is slated for the November 2014 state ballot with a scaled down bond that allocates much needed funding for important stormwater and urban runoff management programs, groundwater recharge, and water conservation activities that assist cities, as AB 1331 proposes to do.

The Division strongly supports goals to collaborate with state and local leaders to address the challenges to fund programs that secure and reuse stormwater and urban runoff. These programs help ensure the sustainability of safe and clean water supplies and increase regional self-reliance throughout the state. Last September, the Division sponsored a resolution adopted by the League of California Cities that:

“calls for the Governor and the Legislature to work with the League and other stakeholders to address the League’s adopted water policies, to provide adequate funding for water conservation, ground water recharge, capture and reuse of stormwater and runoff and compliance with the Clean Water Act stormwater requirements and watershed restoration in the water bond and to prioritize future water bonds to assist local governments in funding these programs.”

We believe that AB 1331 is a step in the right direction. As currently drafted, in Chapter 7, *Climate Change Preparedness for Regional Water Security*, AB 1331 states that “up to \$250,000,000 may be available for grants and loans for multibenefit stormwater management projects.” However, we strongly suggest that AB 1331 be amended to make available “at least” \$250,000,000 for these purposes. Additionally, we appreciate the considerations for stormwater retention funding in AB 1331.

Currently, there is no dedicated, long-term funding source to help cities and other local governments to fund programs and infrastructure that secure and reuse stormwater and

**2013-14 OFFICERS AND
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

PRESIDENT
LING LING CHANG
DIAMOND BAR

VICE PRESIDENT
STEVEN LY
ROSEMEAD

SECRETARY
CAROL CHEN
CERRITOS

TREASURER
MICHEÁL O’LEARY
CULVER CITY

STATE LEAGUE DIRECTOR
OWEN NEWCOMER
WHITTIER

REGIONAL DIRECTORS

ARROYO VERDUGO CITIES
LAURA FRIEDMAN
GLENDALE

CITY OF LOS ANGELES
JOHN WICKHAM
LOS ANGELES

GATEWAY CITIES COG
LARRY FORESTER
SIGNAL HILL

LAS VIRGENES-MALIBU COG
MARK RUTHERFORD
WESTLAKE VILLAGE

SAN GABRIEL VALLEY COG
SAM PEDROZA
CLAREMONT

SAN FERNANDO VALLEY COG
JESS TALAMANTES
BURBANK

SOUTH BAY CITIES COG
JIM GOODHART
PALOS VERDES ESTATES

WESTSIDE CITIES COG
DR. WILLIE BRIEN
BEVERLY HILLS

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
ROBB KORINKE

urban runoff. In Los Angeles County, our cities are collaborating with the County, the business community, and other stakeholders to secure local funding sources to meet our goals. We recognize that these water quality, water reuse and groundwater goals will require federal, state, and local funding sources and options. AB 1331 currently provides some opportunity to make critical investments for local governments and the State to meet the state's infrastructure needs and sustainability objectives, particularly as our state faces an uncertain water future.

Again, we support many aspects of AB 1331 and look forward to working with you and your Legislative colleagues as a final version of the Water Bond works through the Legislature. Thank you for your leadership on this issue. Should you have any questions, please contact Kristine Guerrero at (626) 716-0076 or kguerrero@cacities.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ling-Ling Chang". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ling-Ling Chang
Council Member, Diamond Bar
President, Los Angeles County Division

cc: Los Angeles County Legislative Delegation
Alf Brandt, Legislative Director, 63rd AD, FAX (916) 319-2163
Tina Cannon Leahy, Consultant Assembly Water Bond Working Group
Raul Alvarez, District Director, 63rd AD (562)529-3255

Please note: As part of its expanded advocacy program, the Los Angeles Division of the League of California Cities is now tracking votes of Los Angeles area Legislators and will issue a report at the conclusion of the legislative session to all its member cities regarding the consistency of legislators' votes with the positions of the Los Angeles Division of the League of California Cities.