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**Unanimous Senate Vote Advances SB 72: Statewide Water Supply Legislation Continues Momentum
Amid Climate and Economic Pressures**

After passing the State Senate, [Senate Bill 72](#) authored by Senator Anna Caballero (D - Merced), will move to the Assembly, where it is expected to gain support from lawmakers. The unanimous vote sends a powerful message to the Assembly, Governor Newsom, and the public — as California continues to face water supply shortages of historic proportions, we must continue to implement new and collaborative strategies to secure our statewide water supply future.

Critical Solution for California's Water Supply Challenges

SB 72 would establish California's first-ever statewide water supply target, to develop 9 million acre-feet annually of new water resources by 2040 to benefit all Californians, including residents, businesses, and the environment. SB 72 seeks to complement and amplify Governor Newsom's Water Supply Strategy, ensuring water supply improvements extend beyond any single administration, while aiming to foster greater collaboration among federal, state, and local stakeholders to safeguard California's water supply.

"Senate support for SB 72 has been overwhelmingly positive, and I am confident that it will continue momentum in the Assembly," said Senator Anna Caballero. "The urgency of addressing our water supply challenges is clearer than ever. I am hopeful that the Legislature and Governor Newsom will act to further protect California's future generations and the need for a reliable and long-term statewide water supply."

Unanimous support in the Senate demonstrates that water security transcends party lines. Lawmakers across the political and geographical spectrum—urban and rural, coastal and inland—recognize that the status quo is no longer sustainable.

“Without clear, measurable goals and a timeline for success, statewide efforts to tackle water supply challenges will fall short,” said Craig Miller, General Manager of Western Water District. “SB 72 is a critical step in ensuring that communities across California are better equipped to meet current and future water demands.”

Research Emphasizes Urgent Need for Senate Bill 72

New economic research reveals that continued inaction on California’s perpetual water supply challenges could cost the state up to \$14.5 billion annually.

The report, [*Inaction’s Economic Cost for California’s Water Supply Challenges*](#), conducted by UC academics, Jay Lund (UC Davis), Josue Medellin-Azuara (UC Merced), and Alvar Escriva-Bou (UC Davis) highlights how ongoing water supply shortages could shrink the state’s supply by 25% by 2050, putting up to 9 million households, 3 million acres of farmland, and 67,000 jobs at risk.

“This research makes it crystal clear that the status quo will continue to jeopardize California’s way of life,” said Jay Lund, Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering at UC Davis. “The economic toll of inaction will be widespread and damaging to California’s way of life.”

Widespread Support Across Sectors and Regions

SB 72 has received strong backing from a wide range of stakeholders and water agencies that are committed to water reliability and sustainability. Diverse and statewide support for the bill includes agricultural, housing, and labor groups, local chambers of commerce, and municipalities.

SB 72 is sponsored by the [California Municipal Utilities Association \(CMUA\)](#), the [California State Association of Counties \(CSAC\)](#), and the [California Council for Environmental and Economic Balance \(CCEEB\)](#). These organizations bring decades of policy experience and deep expertise in water infrastructure, governance, and environmental protection.

[Learn more about SB 72 here.](#) CA Water for All is a statewide effort seeking to educate policymakers about the urgent need for a legislative solution to address California’s ongoing water supply challenges. The effort is focused on bringing together the water community, policymakers, and stakeholders to collaborate on ensuring Californians have a sustainable and reliable water supply for all beneficial uses now and for future generations. To learn more or become a supporter, visit www.CaWaterForAll.com.