Casa Applauds Senators Feinstein and Boxer for Emergency Drought Relief Act


The bill is designed to provide immediate and long-term solutions to California’s historic drought, and develops a framework for enhanced recycled water funding as well as other important provisions.

“CASA applauds Senator Feinstein’s leadership to bolster sustainable water supplies while helping protect and improve the environment,” said CASA President, David Williams.

Working with the Association of California Water Agencies and WateReuse California, CASA was able to provide Senator Feinstein with the most recent information available on California’s recycled water projects and the significant potential for development of new water supplies in the state. That information was used to develop a list of more than 100 projects that could provide more than 850,000 acre-feet of water in coming years.

“CASA appreciates the opportunity to collaborate with the Senator on drought legislation that helps identify potential recycled water projects in the state,” noted Bobbi Larson, CASA’s Executive Director. “California’s wastewater agencies stand ready to provide reliable, sustainable water supplies to address drought conditions.”

The legislation also contains $200 million for the Bureau of Reclamation’s water recycling and reuse program, and proposes a new funding mechanism known as the Reclamation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act, modeled on the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act.

“The bill represents a commendable effort to fund local, sustainable water supplies,” said President Williams. “CASA will provide additional review and feedback on a variety of the bill’s provisions, and we look forward to working with Senators Feinstein and Boxer as the legislation moves forward in the coming months.”

The California Association of Sanitation Agencies is the statewide organization representing public agencies that provide wastewater collection, treatment and water recycling services to millions of Californians.