

August 1, 2018

The Honorable Jim Beall  
Member  
California State Senate  
State Capitol, Room 2082  
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SB 1301 (Beall): State permitting: environment: processing procedures: dam safety or flood risk reduction project.  
**Support**

Dear Senator Beall:

On behalf of the California-Nevada Section of the American Water Works Association (Section) I am pleased to relay our “support” to your Senate Bill 1301.

The Section represents water professionals throughout California who are dedicated to providing safe, clean, and affordable drinking water, and are directly engaged in nearly all aspects of the water treatment and supply process. The Section’s membership spans a host of publicly owned utilities, investor owned utilities, and mutual water companies that are committed to advancing sound water policy in California.

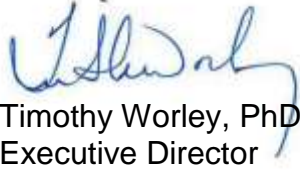
Public health and safety is of paramount importance for the water community, and addressing such time-sensitive infrastructure projects through the current California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) process can often lead to unanticipated time delays and cost increases. Your SB 1301 provides a reasonable pathway to manage the CEQA permitting process related to dam safety and flood risk reduction projects.

Under the bill, a project applicant would have the option to request supplemental consultation and interagency collaboration. Fees paid by the applicant would cover state costs and would enable enhanced engagement with the project applicant early in the project design phase and throughout the permitting process. This supplemental consultation would identify actions that could expedite the required permits, discuss environmental impacts and mitigation, provide feedback on environmental documents, and to resolve any conflicts between the various conditions proposed for permit approval.

SB 1301 will continue to provide the level of environmental protection California is recognized for, while allowing for important public safety projects to move ahead for the

broader public benefit of a community. For these aforementioned reasons, the Section is in support of your SB 1301. If you should have any question on the Section's position, please contact me at 909-291-2102 or [tworley@ca-nv-awwa.org](mailto:tworley@ca-nv-awwa.org).

Sincerely,



Timothy Worley, PhD  
Executive Director  
California-Nevada Section  
of the American Water Works Association

cc: The Honorable Lorena Gonzalez Fletcher, Chair, Assembly Appropriations Committee  
The Honorable Frank Bigelow, Vice Chair, Assembly Appropriations Committee  
Assembly Appropriations Committee Members  
Jennifer Galehouse, Consultant, Assembly Appropriations Committee  
Ellen Cesaretti, Fiscal Consultant, Assembly Republican Caucus

