



EL CENTRO COMUNITARIO POR EL AGUA



Jones Construction and Excavation
Precision Well Drilling, Inc.
NRK Services Inc.
Trahan Enterprises, Inc.
Aero Pure Water Hauling
Big River Drilling



Tule East Groundwater Sustainability Agency
Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District



Pixley
Irrigation District Groundwater Sustainability Agency



Gregorio Gomez, Councilmember
City of Farmersville
Irene Cacho, member
SAFER Advisory Group



August 27, 2026

Honorable Gavin Newsom
Governor, State of California

Pro Tem Monique Limon
California State Senate

Speaker Robert Rivas
California State Assembly

RE: Support for Senate Proposal to Fund SAFER

Dear Pro Tem Limon, Governor Newsom, and Speaker Rivas:

On behalf of the undersigned organizations, we write in support of the Senate's August 20th proposal to fund the Safe and Affordable Funding for Equity and Resilience (SAFER) Program in FY 26-27 as part of a larger Senate Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (GGRF) Plan. Stable funding for SAFER is critical to the state's efforts to address the needs of households served by failing and at-risk water systems. While significant progress has been made since the establishment of SAFER in 2019, including reducing the number of Californians without safe drinking by over one million people, 600,000 Californians are still waiting for assistance.

Consistent and reliable funding for planning, operations and maintenance, and technical assistance has been a key factor in the program's success. The proposed \$80 million in GGRF funding will help us continue funding for these critical projects that cannot be bond funded, albeit at a lower level. The additional \$100 million in Proposition 4 funding will allow the Board to blend its funding sources to optimize the use of SAFER funds.

SAFER funding for water supplies has enabled the Board to partner with other entities, such as the Central Valley Salinity Coalition, to ensure interim water supplies to households struggling with multiple contaminants. Also, in 2025, the administration moved funding for the state's emergency water program to SAFER, putting additional strain on that funding source.

We understand that difficult decisions must be made to ensure a balanced budget and appreciate the difficult choices made by Senate leadership to make this funding available. We strongly support this proposal and urge the Governor and Assembly to reinforce the commitment to the most vulnerable residents of California as presented by the Senate and approve this proposal.

Sincerely,

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California Director
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Tulare County Board of Supervisors

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Travis Millwee
GSA Manager
Pixley ID GSA

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South Fork Kings GSA