

## **7.i. Oppose Letters – Members/Caucus**

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Assembly  
California Legislature



MARTIN GARRICK  
REPUBLICAN LEADER  
ASSEMBLYMEMBER, SEVENTY-FOURTH DISTRICT

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Friday, September 3, 2010

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger  
State Capitol, First Floor  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: RECOMMENDED VETO OF SB 918 (PAVLEY, F)**

Dear Governor Schwarzenegger:

I am writing to request a veto for Senate Bill 918, which passed the Assembly on August 25, 2010, by a vote of 54 to 21, with 21 members of the Assembly Republican Caucus voting 'No'.

Senate Bill 918 (Pavley) requires the Department of Public Health (DPH) to develop and adopt uniform water recycling criteria for indirect potable reuse (groundwater recharge) and surface water augmentation by December 31, 2013 and December 31, 2016, respectively. The bill also requires DPH to report on the feasibility of developing uniform water recycling criteria for direct potable reuse by December 31, 2016.

Given the public's hesitance to embrace recycled water for potable uses, it is inappropriate to force that application down the public's throat by requiring DPH to develop criteria for indirect potable use and surface water augmentation. We should first engage the public and achieve their buy-in before we turn them off to the concept of using recycled water by forcing it upon them.

Considering the fact that San Diego is working toward implementing the state's first pilot project for surface water augmentation, we should withhold action on this bill until that pilot project is underway and we have learned from that experience. According to the Senate Environmental Quality Committee bill analysis, "this may be a case of putting the cart before the horse. It may make sense to conduct an analysis of the public health impacts of at least one pilot project in the state and have DPH develop the criteria prior to moving ahead with uniform regulations for any project in the state to ensure full caution and protection of public health."

Moreover, as suggested in letters submitted in support of SB 918, the attempt to increase the use of recycled water is intended to negate the need for continued investment in surface and groundwater storage facilities. While the expanded use of recycled water can certainly help improve water supply reliability, it is only one piece in the puzzle and cannot supplant investments in other types of

infrastructure improvements like surface and groundwater storage.

Finally, this bill allows environmental, environmental justice, and public health nongovernmental organization members of the advisory group established by DPH to be reimbursed for travel expenses. It is inappropriate to specifically single out those representatives for travel reimbursements without similarly allowing other advisory committee members to be reimbursed, namely those from water/wastewater agencies, local public health officers, and the business community.

For the reasons stated above, I respectfully request that you veto Senate Bill 918.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Martin Garrick". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

MARTIN GARRICK  
Assembly Republican Leader

MG: jk

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# California State Senate

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September 7, 2010

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger  
State Capitol, First Floor  
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Recommended Veto of SB 918 (Pavley)

Dear Governor Schwarzenegger:

I write to respectfully request your veto of Senate Bill 918, which bill requires the Department of Public Health (DPH) and the State Water Resources Control Board to enter an agreement to expend funds from the Waste Discharge Permit Fund to develop uniform statewide recycled water use criteria. The bill also requires DPH and the State Water Resources Control Board to report their progress annually to the Legislature, beginning December 31, 2016.

While recycling water may be a desirable goal, putting recycled water to use is problematic. Recycled water carries a significant social stigma even though it is technically cleaner than most tap water. Thus, recycled water is generally used for landscape purposes such as golf courses, cemeteries, or for non-potable household uses that require dual. The policy problem is, "how can existing supplies of recycled water be put to use?" According to the County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles, only 44% of its recycled water is currently put to re-use. Recycling water that is not or cannot be used is a waste of financial resources. Finally, the bill will cost as much as \$500,000 annually in special funds for the staff DPH to develop criteria and prepare the report by December 31, 2016.

For these reasons, I respectfully request your veto.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dennis Hollingsworth", written over a horizontal line.

Dennis Hollingsworth  
Senate Republican Leader

DH: tc

## **7.ii. Oppose Letters – Organizations/Local Gov't**

**No relevant documents found**