



September 16, 2015

The Honorable Edmund G. Brown, Jr.
Governor, State of California
State Capitol, Suite 1173
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 786 (LEVINE) - REQUEST FOR SIGNATURE

Dear Governor Brown,

On behalf of the Southern California Water Committee (SCWC), I am writing to respectfully request that you sign AB 786 (Levine), which would prohibit homeowners associations from fining homeowners for reducing or eliminating outdoor watering during a state or local emergency due to drought. The only exception would be a separate interest that receives recycled water from a retail water supplier and fails to use the water for landscaping irrigation.

SCWC has long been a leader in water conservation and efficiency efforts. We have worked hard during the declared state of emergency to encourage Southern Californians to reduce their outdoor use.

AB 1 (Brown), which you recently signed, prohibits a city, county, or city and county from imposing a fine for a failure to water a lawn or for having a brown lawn during any period in which a state of emergency due to drought has been proclaimed. It is only appropriate that private organizations such as homeowners associations also be prohibited from imposing fines on homeowners so that the state can achieve the necessary reductions in potable water use and ensure adequate supplies for the future.

AB 786 is an important measure that will give homeowners clarity and certainty as to their ability to conserve potable water by letting their lawns go brown. For these reasons, we request that you sign AB 786.

Sincerely,

Rich Atwater
Executive Director

cc: The Honorable Marc Levine, California State Assembly
Ryan Ojakian, Office of Assemblyman Marc Levine
Tina Cannon-Leahy, Consultant, Assembly Water, Parks & Wildlife Committee
Rob Egel, State Water Resources Control Board
Martha Guzman, Office of the Governor
Kim Craig, Office of the Speaker of the Assembly
Kip Lipper, Office of the Senate President pro Tem

