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# SAN GABRIEL VALLEY WATER ASSOCIATION

May 14, 2018

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The Honorable Ricardo Lara  
 Chair, Committee on Appropriations  
 State Capitol, Room 2206  
 Sacramento, CA 95814  
 VIA Email: [Narisha.Bonakdar@sen.ca.gov](mailto:Narisha.Bonakdar@sen.ca.gov)

**Subject: SB 998- Oppose.**

Dear Senator Lara:

The San Gabriel Valley Water Association (Association) is submitting this letter in opposition to SB 998 (Dodd) which, if passed, will prohibit an urban and community water system from discontinuing residential service for nonpayment until a payment by a customer has been delinquent for at least 60 days. The Association is voluntary organization representing cities, investor-owned utilities, water districts and mutual water companies in the San Gabriel Valley. Together, we provide water to two-million of the state's residents.

As water suppliers, we are committed to providing safe, clean and affordable drinking water. SB 998 threatens our ability to collect revenues necessary to comply with safe drinking water standards. By establishing a minimum 60-day grace period, SB 998 allows delinquent ratepayers to continue to receive services; leading to an increase in costs for other customers. Although we understand the intent of SB 998 is to assist residents who may be facing financial hardships, what the bill fails to recognize is that there are other customers with many of the same financial challenges, whose rates will increase as a result.

We urge you to consider not only the intent of SB 998 but the unintended consequences that the bill will impose on all people of limited means.

Sincerely yours,

David Michalko  
 President  
 San Gabriel Valley Water Association

cc: Senator Bill Dodd  
 San Gabriel Valley Caucus