

August 30, 2010

The Honorable Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor, State of California
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SB 1450 - Delta Stewardship Council Contracts

Dear Governor Schwarzenegger:

I write to request your signature of Senate Bill 1450, pertaining to the contracting authority of the Delta Stewardship Council (Council).

Senate Bill 1450 is a small but necessary bill amending last year's Delta water package. The enabling legislation, SBX7 1 (Chapter 5, Statutes of 2009-10 Seventh Extraordinary Session, Simitian) established the Council and delineated its powers and duties. Primary among these was the right to contract for certain services, as a means to limit the size of the new bureaucracy.

The Council was appointed and began operations in March of this year with a very tight timeline to prepare an interim plan, as well as the longer term Delta plan.

Normal contracting rules are making it difficult for the Council to meet its planning deadline. Senate Bill 1450 exempts the Council from certain contracting rules and requires the contracts to be competitively bid.

These changes have been vetted with the Council and its Chair. To my knowledge there is **no opposition** to the bill.

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I respectfully request your signature on this urgency measure.

Sincerely,

S. Joseph Simitian

State Senator, Eleventh District

SJS: ag

cc: Michael Prosio, Legislative Secretary and Deputy Chief of Staff

John Moffat, Deputy Legislative Secretary