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City of Folsom Santa Clara Valley Water District April 29, 2024

The Honorable Diane Papan California State Assembly State Capitol 1021 O Street, Suite 4220 Sacramento, CA 95814

## RE: AB 3023 (Papan): Aligning State Investments for Fire, Water Security, Climate, Biodiversity and Conservation - SUPPORT

Assemblymember Papan:

On behalf of the Mountain Counties Water Resources Association's Board of Directors, I am writing to express our strong support for your Assembly Bill 3023, Aligning State Investments for Fire, Water Security, Climate, Biodiversity and Conservation, which would align planning and funding efforts related to forest and wildfire resilience efforts, watershed restoration to protect the state water supplies, reducing greenhouse gasses, and preventing further collapse of wildlife populations and our natural heritage.

MCWRA advocates for the water interests of its 58 members in 12 of the mountain counties within the Wildland-Urban Interface (WUI) of woodland and forested lands in the Sierra Nevada. These foothill and mountain areas contain the headwaters for 40% of the state's developed water supply, which also provides for hydropower production, irrigation, recreation, water recycling, tourism, and instream flows that fuel the engine of our State's economy.

MCWRA supports AB 3023. We believe that the measures specified in the legislative proposal will provide much needed support for forest and wildfire resilience efforts, aiding in the important fuels management work being conducted in our rural areas. We thank you for your continued support of MCWRA region infrastructure, communities, and people.

Sincerely,

Scott Ratterman, President

Mountain Counties Water Resources Association