



THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT  
OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

June 11, 2024

The Honorable Maria Elena Durazo, Chair  
Senate Local Government Committee  
State Capitol, Room 407  
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 1827 (Papan): Local government: fees and charges: water: higher consumptive water parcels (Amended April 4, 2024) – **SUPPORT**

Dear Chair Durazo:

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (Metropolitan) is pleased to support AB 1827, related to water fees and charges for higher consumptive parcels.

Metropolitan is the primary water supply wholesaler for the Southern California region. Metropolitan is comprised of 26 member agencies that serve nearly 19 million residents within a six-county service territory – which includes Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, and Ventura counties. We have a long history of working collaboratively with our member agencies to invest in projects and programs to ensure reliable water supply for the Southern California region.

Proposition 218 requires, among other things, that property related fees - including water rates and charges – reflect the cost of service. However, there are instances where some ratepayers use significantly higher amounts of water than others, which puts additional strain on the system and may require the use of water supplies that come at a higher cost. In these cases, agencies have an established practice of assessing users based on a tiered rate structure that reflects the appropriate cost for higher levels of water use. AB 1827 seeks to clarify that aspect of the cost of providing higher usage service, consistent with the intent of Proposition 218, by ensuring that water retailers are authorized to use the appropriate cost allocation methods that reflect the actual cost of higher water use.

For these reasons, Metropolitan supports AB 1827. If you should have any questions, please contact Metropolitan's Executive Legislative Representative Jay Jefferson II, at [jjeffersonii@mwdh2o.com](mailto:jjeffersonii@mwdh2o.com) or (916) 538-4663.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "A. Hagekhalil".

Adel Hagekhalil  
*General Manager*  
Metropolitan Water District of Southern California

The Honorable Maria Elena Durazo

June 10, 2024

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cc: Senator Kelly Seyarto, 32<sup>nd</sup> SD, Vice Chair  
Senator Brian Dahle, 1<sup>st</sup> SD  
Senator Steven Glazer, 7<sup>th</sup> SD  
Senator Nancy Skinner, 9<sup>th</sup> SD  
Senator Aisha Wahab, 10<sup>th</sup> SD  
Senator Scott Wiener, 11<sup>th</sup> SD