



For Immediate Release:
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WEST BASIN HONORS SENATOR DIANNE FEINSTEIN WITH WATER RELIABILITY 2020 LEGISLATOR OF THE YEAR AWARD

CARSON, Calif.— West Basin Municipal Water District (West Basin) recently honored Senator Dianne Feinstein with its Legislator of the Year award.

The Legislator of the Year award is presented to legislators who have helped the water industry and West Basin provide more reliable water supplies through legislation, advocacy or by helping to fund local water supply infrastructure projects. It's no secret that Senator Feinstein has been a champion of water issues and the environment, including such noteworthy issues as the Salton Sea, Lake Tahoe and others.

For the past few years, Senator Feinstein has led the discussion and championed legislation to help solve some of California's most pressing water issues, including finding solutions to challenges in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Bay Delta (Bay Delta). Issues in the Bay Delta run the gamut from protecting habitat for endangered fish species to allowing adequate pumping to send water to southern California to meet its drinking water needs.

"It's a joy to present such an esteemed member of the U.S. Senate with our Water Reliability 2020 Legislator of the Year award," said Director Gloria D. Gray, who also serves on the statewide Delta Stewardship Council. "Senator Feinstein truly understands the significance of water issues to the state of California's economy and environment," she said.

Senator Feinstein worked extensively with Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger to promote California water policies that ultimately produced a comprehensive Bay Delta legislative package. This legislation included an \$11.14 billion water bond and key components intended to achieve the co-equal goals of successfully restoring the Bay Delta ecosystem and providing a reliable supply of drinking water to the State's 30 million people.

West Basin's strategic initiative, the Water Reliability 2020 program, is reducing coastal LA's dependence on imported water and increasing local-control and reliability by doubling conservation, doubling water recycling and adding a small amount of desalted ocean-water to its water supply portfolio by the year 2020 in the face of challenges to imported water supplies.

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West Basin Municipal Water District is reducing its dependence on imported water through the Water Reliability 2020 program that will double conservation, double recycled water production and add desalted ocean-water to our portfolio by the year 2020. Partnering with community organizations, businesses and other public agencies keeps West Basin lean and strengthens its programs. West Basin is a wholesale water district that serves nearly a million people in 17 cities and unincorporated areas throughout its 185-square mile service area in the coastal Los Angeles area.