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## WEST BASIN RECOGNIZES ASSEMBLYMAN RICHARD BLOOM AS LEGISLATOR OF THE YEAR

**CARSON, Calif.** – On a recent trip to Sacramento, members of the West Basin Municipal Water District (West Basin) Board of Directors met with California Assemblyman Richard Bloom (D-Santa Monica) to provide a briefing on West Basin endeavors and to present him with its Legislator of the Year award.

"Assemblyman Bloom is well-deserving of this recognition for his industry-changing leadership," West Basin Board President Harold C. Williams said. "Support from our local representatives is essential as we continue to increase regional self-reliance by developing local, drought-proof water supplies."

In representing California's 50<sup>th</sup> Assembly District, Bloom has been an advocate of recycled water use and efficiency. In 2016, Bloom and his staff worked closely with West Basin to understand the needs of local water suppliers, and identify opportunities for local agencies to self-fund water supply infrastructure projects.

"Setting a new course of action for water self-reliance requires an enormous team effort among local agencies and stakeholders, and West Basin is a valued partner in that endeavor," Bloom said. "Water reliability is one of the most fundamental environmental tasks of our time, so it's an honor to be recognized and pursue this mission with our valued partners."

Through his efforts, Bloom introduced ACA 8, a bill that would provide new opportunities for local agencies to self-fund water related infrastructure during and after California's drought crisis.

"We salute Assemblyman Bloom and his staff for contributing valuable time and resources toward advancing opportunities for local agencies to achieve water self-reliance," West Basin Board Vice President Scott Houston said. "We look forward to continued partnership with Assemblyman Bloom and other local representatives in fulfilling our shared water reliability goals."

The Legislator of the Year award is presented annually to legislators who have been instrumental in creating reliable water supplies through legislation and advocacy.

For more information on West Basin, visit <u>www.westbasin.org</u>.

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West Basin Municipal Water District (West Basin) is a wholesale water agency that provides imported drinking water to nearly one million people in 17 cities and unincorporated areas in Los Angeles County. West Basin is an industry leader in water recycling, conservation, and water education. West Basin is currently implementing a Water Reliability program to reduce the agency's dependence on imported water and develop drought-proof local water supplies. The program includes water recycling, water conservation, groundwater desalting and ocean water desalination. Visit <u>www.westbasin.org</u> to learn more.



(Left to right) West Basin Board Secretary Gloria D. Gray, Board President Harold C. Williams, Assemblyman Richard Bloom, Board Vice President Scott Houston and Board Member Carol. W. Kwan