

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FRESNO, CALIFORNIA, IMPLORING THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES TO SIGN THE WATER INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS FOR THE NATION ACT.

WHEREAS, California is enduring its sixth year of drought through a combination of manmade and natural causes; and

WHEREAS, restrictions under the Endangered Species Act and court decisions have dramatically curtailed the amount of water made available through the Central Valley Project (CVP); and

WHEREAS, the San Joaquin River Settlement Agreement required an increased diversion of surface water from the Friant Division of the CVP for environmental purposes; and

WHEREAS, in 2014 and 2015, zero percent allocation was designated to Federally-contracted water customers; and

WHEREAS, this has caused the fallowing of more than a half-million acres of Central Valley farmland, unemploying thousands, as well as making farmers and communities more reliant on ground water for survival; and

WHEREAS, the City of Fresno is the largest city in the Central Valley, and the fifth largest city in California, has an economy strongly reliant on the agricultural industry, and an unemployment rate consistently higher than the state and national average; and

Date Adopted:
Date Approved:
Effective Date:
City Attorney Approval: 

Resolution No.

WHEREAS, restoration of fallowed Central Valley farmland will result in massive economic opportunities for both farmers and farm laborers, and will result in thousands of jobs for low income families in Fresno and surrounding communities; and

WHEREAS, the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act contains an approximately ninety-eight page California bill, which marks the biggest federal shift in the state's water policy in twenty-five years; and

WHEREAS, by overwhelming majority the bill has passed both houses of congress, by a vote of 78 to 21 in the Senate, and a vote of 360 to 61 in the House, including 36 of 53 California members; and

WHEREAS, the bill steers more water to farmers south of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, eases dam construction, and funds desalination and recycling projects; and

WHEREAS, the bill contains provisions that would allow greater operational flexibility of Delta pumping of the CVP to restore impacted contractors, including greater capture during heavy storm flows; and

WHEREAS, the bill does not supersede any laws or decisions made to protect endangered special and in fact authorizes pilot programs to help protect and divert salmonids and smelt from pumping apparatus, along with a program to reduce the population of invasive and predatory striped bass; and

WHEREAS, the bill contains provisions to support Federally-owned storage projects and state-led projects like the proposed Temperance Flat Dam, including a minimum \$335 million for partnership and agreements for California Water Bond-related storage projects; and

WHEREAS, it is imperative that the President sign this bill into law immediately.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Fresno as follows:

1. The City of Fresno implores the President of the United States to sign the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act immediately.

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STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
 COUNTY OF FRESNO) ss.
 CITY OF FRESNO)

I, YVONNE SPENCE, City Clerk of the City of Fresno, certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the Council of the City of Fresno, at a regular meeting held on the _____ day of _____, 2016.

AYES :
 NOES :
 ABSENT :
 ABSTAIN :

Mayor Approval: _____, 2016
 Mayor Approval/No Return: _____, 2016
 Mayor Veto: _____, 2016
 Council Override Vote: _____, 2016

YVONNE SPENCE, CMC
 City Clerk

By: _____
 Deputy

APPROVED AS TO FORM:
 DOUGLAS T. SLOAN
 City Attorney

By: _____
 Katie Doerr [Date]
 Assistant City Attorney