

RESOLUTION 18-29
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF HELIX WATER DISTRICT
OPPOSING (UNLESS AMENDED) SENATE BILL 623 BY SENATOR WILLIAM MONNING AND THE
2018 BROWN ADMINISTRATION BUDGET TRAILER BILL PROPOSING
A TAX ON DRINKING WATER

WHEREAS, Helix Water District Board of Directors is focused on safe, clean, reliable drinking water for the district's customers at an affordable rate; and

WHEREAS, a proposed tax on drinking water is being advanced through Senate Bill 623 by Senator William Monning (D-Carmel), a two-year bill introduced in 2017, and a 2018 Brown Administration budget trailer bill related to safe drinking water; and

WHEREAS, the water community agrees with the intent of the proposed legislation which is intended to fill gaps in funding to assist disadvantaged communities that lack access to safe drinking water; and

WHEREAS, drinking water is essential to life; and

WHEREAS, adding a tax on drinking water works against the common goal of keeping water bills affordable for Helix Water District customers; and

WHEREAS, the new law would turn Helix Water District into a tax collector for the state of California, requiring additional staff to manage and therefore adding costs to district customers; and

WHEREAS, there are more appropriate funding sources that could be used to address this serious issue, including ongoing federal safe drinking water funds, voter-approved general obligation bond funds, the assessments related to nitrates in groundwater proposed in the budget trailer bill and Senate Bill 623 and state general fund dollars.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Helix Water District Board of Directors opposes (unless amended) Senate Bill 623 and the 2018 Brown Administration budget trailer bill proposing a tax on drinking water.

PASSED, ADOPTED AND APPROVED this 18th day of July 2018, by the following vote:

AYES: McMillan, Scalzitti, Gracyk

NOES: None

ABSENT: Hedberg, Verbeke



Daniel H. McMillan, Chair

ATTEST:



Sandra L. Janzen, Secretary of the Board

