



August 18, 2023

SENT VIA: EMAIL

Senator Mike McGuire

SUBJECT: Letter of Support for SB-867

MEMBER AGENCIES

- City of Cloverdale
- City of Cotati
- City of Healdsburg
- City of Santa Rosa
- City of Sebastopol
- City of Ukiah
- County of Mendocino
- County of Sonoma
- Sonoma County Water Agency
- Town of Windsor

ANDY RODGERS
Executive Director

300 Seminary Avenue
Ukiah, CA 95482
(707) 508-3670
info@rrwatershed.org
www.rrwatershed.org

Dear Senator McGuire:

Serving as Executive Director for the Russian River Watershed Association (RRWA), I am writing to express my support for SB 867, introduced by Senators Allen, Becker, Portantino, and Stern, and ask that that you consider requesting that SB 867 be amended to increase the amount for grants and expenditures related to Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) to improve climate resilience on a watershed basis from \$300 million to \$350 million. We are requesting the increase to \$350 million as that amount is consistent with funding amounts in AB 1567.

In the face of increasing intensity and frequency of droughts, storms, water contamination, and more, we believe that our watershed must improve its water infrastructure while improving regional water self-reliance. Additional resources from IRWM will significantly help our local communities who have the knowledge, skills, and expertise to implement sustainable, reliable, and regionally appropriate solutions before our water issues become more complicated, expensive, and dangerous.

The RRWA is a coalition of ten public agencies in Sonoma and Mendocino Counties that have come together to coordinate regional programs in the Russian River Watershed for clean water, habitat restoration, and watershed enhancement.

Thank you in advance for considering increased funding for this important collaborative effort. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions, at cleanwater@rrwatershed.org or 707 508 3670.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Andy Rodgers', is positioned above the typed name and title.

Andy Rodgers, Executive Director
Russian River Watershed Association

CC: Senator Ben Allen