



**California Association of
Environmental Health
Administrators**

February 10, 2016

Felicia Marcus, Chair
State Water Resources Control Board
1001 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95814



SUBJECT: SWRCB Human Right to Water Resolution

Dear Chair Marcus:

On behalf of the California Association of Environmental Health Administrators (CAEHA) we wish to express our support for the State Water Board Resolution #2016-00 which pertains to human right to water.

As you will recall, at the time of the transition of the Drinking Water Program (DWP) from State Department of Public Health (CDPH) to the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB), CAEHA expressed its concern that the public health focus may be lost or diminished.

We are pleased to note that since the transition, the SWRCB has revised its mission to explicitly include protection of drinking water (Whereas # 4 in Resolution).

We support the establishment of this resolution which articulates how the SWRCB plans on implementing its responsibilities under the Human Right to Water Act *within* its existing roles and responsibilities. We also recognize that while the SWRCB may be the primary state agency responsible for the implementation of the law, it is not the sole agency with this task. We would encourage other state agencies to follow suit with a clearly stated roadmap of their obligations under this law.

Furthermore, we understand that the enabling law did not direct the state agencies to implement this statute to the exclusion of their other responsibilities. We share your Board's approach that this should be done through full collaboration with the regional boards and local agencies.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at (415) 473-6919 or our Executive Director, Justin Malan at (916) 448 1015 if you or your staff have any questions regarding this letter or our role in and commitment to providing excellent public environmental health services to our communities.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Ng

Rebecca Ng, R.E.H.S
CAEHA President