

UNITED STATES CONGRESSMAN

DAVID G. VALADAO

The GROW Act

H.R. 23, Gaining Responsibility on Water Act

Complex and inconsistent system of laws, court decisions, and regulations at the state and federal levels is resulting in the mismanagement of critical water resources throughout the West. The current regulatory framework governing movement and storage of water is based upon outdated science and illogical regulations and is resulting in the misallocation of precious water resources and a lack of adequate water storage. These shortcomings negatively impact local economies across the West, pose an increasing threat to America's food security, and place undue burdens on our environment.

H.R. 23, the *Gaining Responsibility on Water* (GROW) Act addresses the underlying policy failures that contribute to increasingly severe drought conditions in communities across the West.

- ❖ **Bay-Delta Improvements:** Restores water deliveries to the Central Valley communities by codifying the Bay-Delta Accord. Affirms that if the State Water Project and the Central Valley Project are operated consistent with the Bay-Delta Accord, then they are in compliance with the requirements of the Endangered Species Act.
- ❖ **Water Reliability:** Updates the Central Valley Project Improvement Act (CVPIA) to ensure water resources are reliable, predictable, and available to fulfill supply promises.
- ❖ **Expanding Infrastructure:** Enacts "one-stop-shop" permitting reforms aimed at building infrastructure to capture more water.
- ❖ **Expanding Storage:** Requires the federal government to expedite and complete consideration of feasibility studies for water storage projects that have been languishing in bureaucratic purgatory for over ten years.
- ❖ **Water Rights Protection:** Prevents federal agencies from requiring certain entities to relinquish their water rights to the United States in order to use public lands.

Based on previous legislative efforts that were initially developed on a bipartisan and bicameral basis, the *GROW Act* is a balanced and thoughtful solution to address America's water resource needs.

For more information, please contact Congressman Valadao's Office at (202) 225-4695.

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