



The Western Coalition of Arid States

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June 28, 2018

The Honorable Bill Shuster
Chairman
Committee on Transportation
and Infrastructure
2165 Rayburn House Office Bldg.
Washington, D. C. 20515

The Honorable Garrett Graves
Chairman
Subcommittee on Water Resources
And Environment
2165 Rayburn House Office Bldg.
Washington, D. C. 20515

The Honorable Peter A. DeFazio
Ranking Member
Committee on Transportation
and Infrastructure
2164 Rayburn House Office Bldg.
Washington, D. C. 20515

The Honorable Grace Napolitano
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Water Resources
and Environment
2164 Rayburn House Office Bldg.
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Chairman Shuster, Ranking Member DeFazio, Chairman Graves,
and Ranking Member Napolitano:

The Board of Directors of the Western Coalition of Arid States [WESTCAS] wishes to express our appreciation for your leadership in passing H.R. 8, the Water Resources Development Act of 2018, unanimously through your Committee followed by passage on the House floor by an overwhelming majority of 408 to 2 votes. It is our sincere hope that you will be able to go to conference with your Senate counterparts and create a final version of the bill. Success in this endeavor would be a welcome confirmation that the Congress has now firmly re-established a two-year cycle for WRDA reauthorizations.

WESTCAS is an organization of water and wastewater service providers who advocate for water resources in the arid southwest. Growing population and recurrent droughts throughout our region mean that legislation like WRDA is vital to our mission. This includes the provisions relating to the approximately 700 Army Corps of Engineers dams and their missions including water supply and flood control. Your legislation lays out a solid framework for the future including more local involvement in the selection of projects and an acceleration of the process through which Federal funding is awarded.

The Voice of Water Quality in the Arid West

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WESTCAS



Thank you again for the effort that you have made to advance the WRDA reauthorization process. WESTCAS looks forward to working with you and with your Senate counterparts as you proceed to conference on this bipartisan legislation.

Sincerely,



Steve Bigley
President

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