



MAYOR ROBERT GARCIA
CITY OF LONG BEACH

September 8, 2015

The Honorable Edmund G. Brown, Jr.
Governor of California
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Support for Senate Bill 485 (Hernandez) – County of Los Angeles: sanitation districts

Dear Governor Brown:

On behalf of the City of Long Beach, I write in support of Senate Bill 485 (Hernandez). This bill provides local governments with additional resources to manage stormwater and dry weather runoff, which in turn, will improve recreational water quality.

Existing law enables the Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts (LACSD) to manage wastewater and solid waste, but does not provide the LACSD with authority to manage stormwater and dry weather runoff. Long Beach supports the development of Total Daily Maximum Loads (TMDLs) for trash, bacteria and other stormwater pollutants, and recognizes that management and treatment of stormwater can become quite costly. In coordination with upstream cities and the Gateway Regional Water Management Authority, Long Beach has helped lay a foundation for coordinated stormwater management; however, greater capacity needs to be developed to fully meet the requirements of existing and future TMDLs.

SB 485 would grant the LACSD the authority to divert, manage, and treat stormwater and dry weather runoff. Pursuing a larger role for the LACSD with respect to stormwater management will greatly aid local jurisdictions in their quest to reduce stormwater pollutants and improve watershed health. The City of Long Beach is committed to improving the management of stormwater and dry weather runoff. Long Beach is a member of Sanitation Districts 1, 2, 3, 8, and 19. SB 485 would allow Long Beach to partner with the Sanitation Districts to pursue a cost-effective approach to stormwater management and compliance, and potentially assist local water agencies with water conservation and reuse in the process.

Given these reasons, the City of Long Beach has been in support of SB 485, which has received unanimous votes in the Legislature, and respectfully request your signature on SB 485 (Hernandez).

Thank you for considering this bill.

Sincerely,

Mayor Robert Garcia
City of Long Beach

cc: The Honorable Ricardo Lara, State Senate, 33rd District
The Honorable Janet Nguyen, State Senate, 34th District
The Honorable Isadore Hall, III, State Senate, 35th District
The Honorable Anthony Rendon, State Assembly, 63rd District
The Honorable Mike Gipson, State Assembly, 64th District
The Honorable Patrick O'Donnell, State Assembly, 70th District