

**The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California  
Federal Legislative Matrix: 119<sup>th</sup> Congress, Second Session  
March 2026**

Topic	Bill/Author	Status	Title – Summary	MWD Position	Effects on MWD
Assistance for Disadvantaged Communities	<b>H.R. 4733</b> Sorenson, D-IL Bresnahan, R-PA Lawler, R-NY Kelly, D-IL Fitzpatrick, R-PA Davids, D-KS Moylan, R-Guam McBath, D-GA	7/23/25: Referred to the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.	<b>Low-Income Household Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP) Establishment Act</b>  Establishes a permanent, nationwide water assistance program to help low-income households with their water and wastewater bills.	<b>SUPPORT</b>  Based upon 2026 Legislative Priorities and Principles.	This bill makes permanent the temporary low-income household water assistance program established at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic. Sustained federal assistance to help low-income households afford their water and wastewater bills would help residents in Metropolitan’s service area and its member agencies.
Conservation	<b>H.R. 1871</b> Huffman (D-CA) Moore (R-UT)  <b>S. 857</b> Curtis (R-UT) Padilla (D-CA)	3/05/25: Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.  3/05/25: Referred to the Senate Committee on Finance.	<b>Water Conservation Rebate Tax Parity Act</b>  Amends the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to expand the exclusion for conservation subsidies to include water conservation or efficiency measures and stormwater management measures.	<b>SUPPORT</b>  Based upon 2026 Legislative Priorities and Principles.	This bill makes rebates that homeowners receive for water conservation improvements to their home, including smart irrigation systems and turf removal, exempt from federal taxes. If enacted, Metropolitan and its member agencies would no longer need to provide tax forms at the end of the year to customers that have received \$600 or more in water conservation rebates.

**The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California  
Federal Legislative Matrix: 119<sup>th</sup> Congress, Second Session  
March 2026**

<p>Cybersecurity</p>	<p><b>H.R. 2594</b> Crawford (R-AR) Bresnahan (R-PA) Finstad (R-MN)</p>	<p>4/02/25: Referred to the House Committees on Transportation &amp; Infrastructure and Energy and Commerce.</p>	<p><b>Water Risk and Resilience Organization</b></p> <p>To establish a Water Risk and Resilience Organization to develop cybersecurity regulations for the water sector.</p>	<p><b>OPPOSE</b></p> <p>Based upon 2026 Legislative Priorities and Principles.</p>	<p>This bill establishes a new regulatory body, the Water Risk and Resilience Organization (WRRO), that would be overseen by EPA but is separate from EPA. The WRRO is tasked with developing and enforcing cybersecurity requirements for the water sector. If enacted this bill would subject Metropolitan and its member agencies to new unknown regulatory requirements. The legislation does not provide clear guidance to the WRRO on what type of cybersecurity standards are appropriate for the water sector other than relying on “best practices” and fails to ensure new regulations would not be duplicative of existing requirements some water systems are already subject to. Additionally, the legislation does not include funding to help water systems comply with new regulations, instead it includes a punitive penalty of up to \$25,000 per day for violation.</p>
----------------------	---	--	--	--	---

**The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California  
Federal Legislative Matrix: 119<sup>th</sup> Congress, Second Session  
March 2026**

Topic	Bill/Author	Status	Title – Summary	MWD Position	Effects on MWD
<p>Endangered Species Act Oversight</p>	<p><b>H.R. 831</b> Calvert (R-CA) Lee (D-NV) Titus (D-NV) Horsford (D-NV) Stanton (D-AZ) Ciscomoni (R-AZ)</p> <p><b>S. 291</b> Padilla (D-CA) Schiff (D-CA) Cortez Masto (D-NV) Rosen (D-NV) Kelly (D-AZ) Gallego (D-AZ)</p>	<p>9/15/25: Placed on the House Calendar.</p> <p>1/29/25: Referred to the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.</p>	<p><b>Lower Colorado River Multi-Species Conservation Program Amendment Act of 2025</b></p> <p>Establishes an interest-bearing account for the non-federal contributions to the Lower Colorado River Multi-Species Conservation Program (LCR MSCP).</p>	<p><b>SUPPORT</b></p> <p>Based upon 2026 Legislative Priorities and Principles.</p>	<p>The LCR MSCP program addresses the needs of threatened and endangered species and provides reliability for water deliveries and hydropower production. The bill will allow the Bureau of Reclamation to hold the non-federal funds for the LCR MSCP in an interest-bearing account. The interest collected will be reinvested in LCR MSCP projects, contributing to the continued success of this program and helping offset the impact of inflation. This bill would benefit Metropolitan because we are a member of California’s LCR MSCP participant group.</p>

**The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California  
Federal Legislative Matrix: 119<sup>th</sup> Congress, Second Session  
March 2026**

Topic	Bill/Author	Status	Title – Summary	MWD Position	Effects on MWD
Endangered Species Act Oversight	<b>H.R. 1894</b> Calvert (R-CA) Costa (D-CA) McClintock (R-CA) Issa (R-CA)	3/06/25: Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.	<b>Federally Integrated Species Health Act or the “FISH Act”</b>  Transfers the authority to oversee Endangered Species Act (ESA) related responsibilities for anadromous fish from the Secretary of Commerce to the Secretary of the Interior.	<b>SUPPORT</b>  Based upon 2026 Legislative Priorities and Principles.	This bill would consolidate the management and regulation of anadromous fish under the ESA at the Fish and Wildlife Service. Currently, ESA authority is split between FWS and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). California’s water delivery system and its fisheries would benefit from having a single federal agency responsible for anadromous species management.

**The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California  
Federal Legislative Matrix: 119<sup>th</sup> Congress, Second Session  
March 2026**

Topic	Bill/Author	Status	Title – Summary	MWD Position	Effects on MWD
Financing Tools for Water Infrastructure Projects	<p><b>H.R. 3158</b> Lee (D-NV) Amodei (R-NV) Stanton (D-AZ) Ciscomani (R-AZ) Horsford (D-NV) Titus (D-NV) Ansari (D-AZ) Calvert (R-CA) Cisneros (D-CA) Schweikert5 (R-AZ)</p> <p><b>S. 1570</b> Cortez Masto (D-NV) Kelly (D-AZ) Gallego (D-AZ) Rosen (D-AZ) Padilla (D-CA) Schiff (D-CA)</p>	<p>5/01/25: Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.</p> <p>5/01/25: Referred to the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.</p>	<p><b>Help Hoover Dam Act</b></p> <p>Amends the Boulder Canyon Project Act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to expend money in the Colorado River Dam fund.</p>	<p><b>SUPPORT</b></p> <p>Based upon 2026 Legislative Priorities and Principles.</p>	<p>This legislation gives the Bureau of Reclamation authority to utilize stranded funds paid by the Hoover Dam power contractors for operations, maintenance, repair, and clean up actions at Hoover Dam. The bill would benefit Metropolitan and its member agencies by providing a new source of funding for needed work on Hoover Dam.</p>

**The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California  
Federal Legislative Matrix: 119<sup>th</sup> Congress, Second Session  
March 2026**

Topic	Bill/Author	Status	Title – Summary	MWD Position	Effects on MWD
Financing Tools for Water Infrastructure Projects	<p><b>H.R. 6204</b> Lee (D-NV) Ciscomani (R-AZ)</p> <p><b>S. 3693</b> Cortez Masto (D-NV) Curtis (R-UT)</p>	<p>11/20/25: Referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.</p> <p>1/27/26: Referred to the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.</p>	<p><b>Large-Scale Water Recycling Reauthorization Act</b></p> <p>Reauthorizes for another five years the Bureau of Reclamation’s competitive grant program for the planning, design, and construction of large-scale water recycling and reclamation projects.</p>	<p><b>SUPPORT</b></p> <p>Based upon 2026 Legislative Priorities and Principles.</p>	<p>This bill benefits Metropolitan and our member agencies by reauthorizing Reclamation’s program to provide funding for our Pure Water project and other large-scale recycled water projects in the Colorado River Basin and throughout the West.</p>

**The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California  
Federal Legislative Matrix: 119<sup>th</sup> Congress, Second Session  
March 2026**

Topic	Bill/Author	Status	Title – Summary	MWD Position	Effects on MWD
Financing Tools for Water Infrastructure Projects	<b>S. 3737</b> Padilla (D-CA)	1/29/26: Referred to the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.	<p><b>Growing Resilient Operations from Water Saving and Municipal-Agricultural Reciprocally-beneficial Transactions Act or the “GROW SMART Act”</b></p> <p>Amends the Reclamation States Emergency Drought Relief Act of 1991 to provide financial and technical assistance to eligible entities for the conduct of innovative approaches to voluntary water partnership agreements among multiple water users and projects conducted by individual agricultural entities.</p>	<p><b>SUPPORT</b></p> <p>Based upon 2026 Legislative Priorities and Principles.</p>	<p>This bill creates a new grant program at the Bureau of Reclamation to fund demonstration projects to assess the feasibility of voluntarily switching to a variety of more water efficient agricultural practices. It could be used to support Metropolitan’s work in the Palo Verde Valley and elsewhere.</p>

**The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California  
Federal Legislative Matrix: 119<sup>th</sup> Congress, Second Session  
March 2026**

Topic	Bill/Author	Status	Title – Summary	MWD Position	Effects on MWD
Financing Tools for Water Infrastructure Projects	<b>S.3738</b> Padilla (D-CA)	1/29/26: Referred to the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.	<b>Making Our communities Resilient through Enhancing Water for Agriculture, Technology, the Environment, and Residences Act or the “MORE WATER Act”</b>  Amends the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act to reauthorize the large-scale water recycling and reuse program, to establish a Water Conveyance Improvement Program.	<b>SUPPORT</b>  Based upon 2026 Legislative Priorities and Principles	This bill would help boost water supply reliability by extending the Bureau of Reclamation’s water recycling programs and environmental restoration program. It also creates a new grant program to help fix critical water conveyance infrastructure essential to ensuring reliable water deliveries.
Source Water Protection	<b>S. 350</b> Padilla (D-CA) Daines (R-MT)	7/17/25: Discharged by Unanimous Consent from the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, referred to the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry.	<b>Wildfire Emergency Act of 2025</b>  To direct the Secretary of Agriculture to select and implement landscape-scale forest restoration projects, to assist communities in increasing their resilience to wildfire, and for other purposes.	<b>SUPPORT</b>  Based upon 2026 Legislative Priorities and Principles.	This bill has water supply, water quality, and ecosystem benefits for the Colorado River watershed and State Water Project watershed. Proper forest management and wildfire prevention promotes runoff, helps protect water quality, and improves habitat.

**The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California  
Federal Legislative Matrix: 119<sup>th</sup> Congress, Second Session  
March 2026**

Topic	Bill/Author	Status	Title – Summary	MWD Position	Effects on MWD
Source Water Protection	<b>H.R. 1267</b> Perez (D-WA) Maloy (R-UT)	2/12/25: Referred to the House Committees on Energy and Commerce and Transportation and Infrastructure.	<b>Water Systems PFAS Liability Protection Act</b>  Provides exemptions to drinking water and wastewater facilities from liability under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (CERCLA) for PFAS chemicals designated as hazardous substances.	<b>SUPPORT</b>  Based upon 2026 Legislative Priorities and Principles.	The bill follows the “polluters pay” principle for cleanup of PFAS under CERCLA by shielding drinking water and wastewater systems from cleanup liability when they properly dispose of water treatment byproducts containing PFAS.

**The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California  
Federal Legislative Matrix: 119<sup>th</sup> Congress, Second Session  
March 2026**

Topic	Bill/Author	Status	Title – Summary	MWD Position	Effects on MWD
Source Water Protection	<p><b>H.R. 1459</b> Crow (D-CO)</p> <p><b>S. 670</b> Bennet (D-CO) Wyden (D-OR) Hickenlooper (D-CO) Gallego (D-AZ) Rosen (D-NV)</p>	<p>2/20/25: Referred to the House Committees on Agriculture and Natural Resources.</p> <p>2/20/25: Referred to the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry.</p>	<p><b>Protect the West Act of 2025</b></p> <p>Establishes a \$60 billion fund at the Treasury Department for use by the Secretary of Agriculture for restoration and resilience projects, wildfire risk reduction projects and habitat restoration projects.</p>	<p><b>SUPPORT</b></p> <p>Based upon 2026 Legislative Priorities and Principles.</p>	<p>This bill would benefit Metropolitan and its member agencies by funding projects to improve watershed health. It creates a grant program for restoration and resilience projects to improve forest conditions, rangeland health, watershed functions, or wildlife habitat. Additional grants would provide funding for partnership projects to reduce wildfire risk, restore habitat, and expand access to the outdoors. State agencies, local and tribal governments, and special districts may use these funds along with partner organizations.</p>

**The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California  
Federal Legislative Matrix: 119<sup>th</sup> Congress, Second Session  
March 2026**

Topic	Bill/Author	Status	Title – Summary	MWD Position	Effects on MWD
Source Water Protection	<b>H.R. 2093</b> Calvert (R-CA) Garamendi (D-CA) Rouzer (R-NC)	3/14/25: Referred to the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.	<b>Federal Water Pollution Control Permitting Terms</b>  Amends the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (Clean Water Act) with respect to permitting terms.	<b>SUPPORT</b>  Based upon 2026 Legislative Priorities and Principles.	This legislation would extend the maximum term for National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits issued under the Clean Water Act from 5 to 10 years for public agencies that have demonstrated compliance with existing permit conditions. This change is designed to better reflect the construction schedules for public agencies.
Water Project Authorizations	<b>H.R. 338</b> Costa (D-CA) Min (D-CA) Valadao (R-CA)	11/19/25: Hearing held before the House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife and Fisheries	<b>Every Drop Counts Act</b>  Amends the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act to raise the cap for eligible groundwater storage projects from 30,000 AF per year to 150,000 AF per year.	<b>SUPPORT</b>  Based upon 2026 Legislative Priorities and Principles.	Increasing the size of groundwater storage projects eligible to apply for this funding could benefit Metropolitan and our member agencies. The proposed cap of 150,000 AF per year is more than twice the annual storage capacity of the AVEK High Desert Water Bank. The revised program would create a new funding opportunity for larger scale groundwater storage projects in the Central Valley.

**The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California  
Federal Legislative Matrix: 119<sup>th</sup> Congress, Second Session  
March 2026**

Topic	Bill/Author	Status	Title – Summary	MWD Position	Effects on MWD
Water Project Authorizations	<b>H.R. 1311</b> Harder (D-CA)	2/13/25: Referred to the House Transportation and Infrastructure.	<b>Stop the Tunnels Act</b>  Prohibits the Corps of Engineers from issuing a permit for the Delta Conveyance Project.	<b>OPPOSE</b>  Based upon 2026 Legislative Priorities and Principles.	This bill prevents the Army Corps from issuing a Clean Water Act section 404 permit for the Delta Conveyance Project. Metropolitan has invested in the planning and permitting process for this project and if enacted, this bill would stop the permitting process from moving forward.