

**Metropolitan Water District of Southern California  
Federal Legislative Matrix: 119<sup>th</sup> Congress, First Session  
March 2025**

Topic	Bill/Author	Status	Title – Summary	MWD Position	Effects on MWD
Endangered Species Act Oversight	<b>H.R. 831 (Calvert, R-CA)</b>  <b>S. 291 (Padilla, D-CA)</b>	1/31/25: Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.  1/29/25: Referred to the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.	<b>Lower Colorado River Multi-Species Conservation Program Amendment Act of 2025</b>  Establishes an interest-bearing account for the non-federal contributions to the Lower Colorado River Multi-Species Conservation Program (LCR MSCP).	<b>SUPPORT</b>  Based upon 2025 Legislative Priorities and Principles.	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.

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Groundwater	<b>H.R. 338 (Costa, D-CA) and (Valadao, R-CA)</b>	1/13/25: Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.	<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 2025 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.
Source Water Protection	<b>S. 350 (Padilla, D-CA) and (Daines, R-MT)</b>	1/30/25: Referred to the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.	<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 2025 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.

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Water Project Authorizations	<b>H.R. 1311 (Harder, D-CA)</b>	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 2025 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.
Water System Security	<b>H.R. 1267 (Perez, D-WA) and Maloy, R-UT)</b>	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 2025 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.