

DELTA PROTECTION COMMISSION

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August 5, 2021



Don Nottoli, Chair
Sacramento County Board of
Supervisors

Chuck Winn, Vice Chair
San Joaquin County Board of
Supervisors

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Contra Costa County Board of
Supervisors

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Solano County Board of
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Cities of Sacramento and
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Central Delta Reclamation
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North Delta Reclamation Districts

Nick Mussi
South Delta Reclamation Districts

David Kim
CA State Transportation Agency

Karen Ross
CA Department of Food and
Agriculture

Wade Crowfoot
CA Natural Resources Agency

Brian Bugsch
CA State Lands Commission

Ex Officio Members

Honorable Jim Frazier
California State Assembly

Vacant
California State Senate

Honorable Henry Stern and members
Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee
State Capitol, Room 5046
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: S.B. 821 Delta Independent Science Board
(sent via email to dennis.o'connor@senate.ca.gov)

Dear Chair Stern and Senators:

The Delta Protection Commission (Commission) is a state agency working to ensure that the accomplishment of the coequal goals for the Delta are conducted in a manner that protects and enhances the unique cultural, recreational, natural resource, and agricultural values of the Delta as an evolving place.

The Commission appreciates your Committee's sponsorship and support of Senate Bill 821, to clarify the independent status and fix a salary for Delta Independent Science Board (DISB) members. We wish to express our strong support for this legislation, as amended in the Assembly July 5, 2021.

The Commission recognizes the value of a functioning DISB and the role it plays in evaluating the broad range of scientific programs that support adaptive management of the Delta. These nationally prominent scientists have added immense value to the review of Delta scientific research, monitoring, and assessment programs. It is important that they retain an independent status and are compensated to reflect the important role they play in the Delta scientific enterprise.

The Commission voted to approve this letter at its meeting on August 5, 2021 on a unanimous vote, with Commission members representing the Governor's administration not participating in the meeting.

Sincerely,

Don Nottoli
Chair

cc: Delta-region legislators (Senators Dodd, Eggman, Pan, and Glazer; Assemblymembers Frazier, Aguiar-Curry, McCarty, Cooper, Flora, Villapudua, Grayson, and Bauer-Kahan) Angie Wei, Legislative Affairs Secretary to Governor Newsom
Members, Delta Protection Commission