



February 13, 2018

Jeanine Townsend
State Water Resources Control Board
1001 I Street, 24th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: **Comment Letter – Changes to Proposed Regulations Prohibiting Wasteful Water Use Practices**

Dear Ms. Townsend:

The California Restaurant Association (CRA) is the definitive voice of the food service industry in the state of California representing over 22,000 members. Our members are often at the forefront of conservationist practices. In fact, it is critical in this modern age for a restaurant to be very judicious with all of its resources to survive. Oh behalf of our members, we would like to commend you on the revisions to the proposed “Conservation and the Prevention of Waste and Unreasonable Use” regulations.

Hospitality is a key feature of California’s restaurant community. Our customers choose to dine out in our members’ restaurants because they want an enjoyable dining experience. One of the many ways our members create a hospitable environment is to offer customers water at the table. While we understand the important need for water conservation throughout our state, we do feel that the ability for restaurants to serve customers water is a very small component of the overall water usage issue.

We are supportive of proposals that provide our members the flexibility to maintain their levels of service and help meet conservation needs during a drought. The current revisions to the proposed “Conservation and the Prevention of Waste and Unreasonable Use” regulation which provides for the serving of drinking water upon request during a period in which the Governor issues a state of emergency based on drought conditions gives our members the ability to maintain water as a hospitable service during non-drought years and a mechanism to conserve during drought conditions.

Thank you for taking our members concerns into account with regards to the most recent revisions to the regulations. We are pleased to support the changes to the proposed regulations prohibiting wasteful water practices.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Katie Hansen".

Katie Hansen
Senior Legislative Director
California Restaurant Association

cc: State Water Resources Control Board Members