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September 12, 2017

The Honorable Lorena Gonzalez Fletcher  
Chair, Assembly Appropriations Committee  
State Capitol, Room 2114  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: SB 5 (De León) California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access For All Act of 2018.**  
**SUPPORT** (*As Amended 9/10/17*)

Dear Assembly Member Gonzalez Fletcher,

The League of California Cities is pleased to support SB 5 (De León), which would place on the June 2018 ballot the California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access For All Act of 2018.

City parks throughout the state have suffered from a lack of funding. The last true park bond, Proposition 40, passed 15 years ago. Since then, parks have suffered through the Great Recession as cities struggled to shore up shrinking budgets. Many parks departments have not recovered, and are still weighed down by deferred maintenance. There is high demand for grant funds, as evidenced by the high ratio of available funds to applicant requests, with the need highest in disadvantaged communities.

SB 5 proposes a substantial funding for local parks. The League believes that a statewide park bond measure should include a component that provides per capita grants to cities and counties. To that end, we appreciate \$200 million for park rehabilitation and improvement grants for local governments. The League also appreciates the \$725 million for safe neighborhood parks in SB 5, as well as the additional funding available to local governments through a variety of competitive grant programs.

In addition, the League supports funding for water related needs, including maintenance and construction, for water supply, sewer, storm water, flood control, beach erosion, etc. We appreciate the funding in SB 5 set aside for such projects, including funding for flood protection and storm water.

The League of California Cities supports SB 5 (De León) and urges your “aye” vote on this measure. If you have any questions, please contact me at (916) 658-8250.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Erin Evans-Fudem".

Erin Evans-Fudem  
Legislative Representative

cc: The Honorable Kevin de León, Senate President pro Tempore  
Members, Assembly Appropriations Committee  
Alice Reynolds, Senior Advisor, Office of Governor Brown  
Catalina Hayes-Bautista, Deputy Legislative Affairs Secretary, Office of Governor Brown  
Kip Lipper, Chief Energy & Environment Advisor, Senate President pro Tempore  
Jennifer Galehouse, Deputy Chief Consultant, Assembly Appropriations Committee  
Jared Yoshiki, Consultant, Assembly Republican Caucus