



# Sacramento-San Joaquin Valley Emergency Water Delivery Act

## Talking Points

- The Sacramento-San Joaquin Valley Emergency Water Delivery Act would restore water supplies, provide job certainty to farmers and communities in California's Sacramento-San Joaquin Valley and decrease reliance on foreign food sources.
- California's Sacramento-San Joaquin Valley is the salad bowl of the world, providing the majority of fruits and vegetables for the entire nation. But, with another man-made drought looming, the San Joaquin Valley is in danger of becoming a dust bowl unless immediate action is taken to change policies that put the needs of fish above the livelihood of people.
- Federal regulations to protect a 3-inch fish – the Delta smelt - led to the deliberate diversion of over hundreds of billions of gallons of water away from farmers, cost thousands of farm workers their jobs, inflicted massive unemployment in certain communities, and fallowed hundreds of thousands of acres of fertile farmland.
- Unemployment remains at a regional average of 15%. With current precipitation at near-record lows, the same regulations will be imposed pushing unemployment even higher.
- The Sacramento-San Joaquin Valley Emergency Water Delivery Act reflects Republican promises to avoid another man-made drought.
- The bill is a comprehensive solution that would restore water deliveries that have been cut-off due to federal regulations and environmental lawsuits, ensure a reliable water supply for people and fish, secure water rights, and save taxpayer \$1.2 billion by ending unnecessary and dubious government projects.
- The bill could create up to 30,000 jobs, generate up to \$300 million in expedited federal revenue, and save American taxpayers and ratepayers hundreds of millions of dollars.

### Highlights of the bill:

- Restores water deliveries to communities by codifying the historic, bipartisan State/Federal agreement known as the "Bay-Delta Accord."
- Reforms punitive federal laws, the Central Valley Project Improvement Act and the San Joaquin River Restoration Settlement Act in order to provide fairness to ratepayers, promote transparency and accountability, and save taxpayers hundreds of millions of dollars.
- Allows water users to pay off federal debt early.
- Protects and secures private property and senior water rights.