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Sent: Tuesday, July 6, 2021 11:35 AM

To: Delta Council ISB <DeltaCouncilISB@deltacouncil.ca.gov>; Brandt, Stephen B. <brandt.disb@gmail.com>

Cc: Gwynne Pratt <gtpratt@yahoo.com>

Subject: SB 821 amended to increase compensation & add urgency clause

Dear Delta Independent Science Board members,

On behalf of California Water Research, I wanted to express our profound gratitude for your essentially volunteer work in FY 2020-21, and for your patience and good humor. You have shown extraordinary professional dedication and service during an extremely difficult year.

We are hopeful that the untenable situation with the Delta ISB compensation will be resolved soon, and are thankful for the concern shown by the Delta Stewardship Council Chair and members and many, many Delta stakeholders and scientists.

Although the Delta Independent Science Board has been administered essentially as a scientific review panel, you are appointed officers of an independent board of the state of California. As such, you have both the right and, arguably, the duty of oversight of the fiscal affairs of the Delta Independent Science Board. The information below is provided to you in that capacity.

The California Assembly Water Parks and Wildlife Committee passed Senate Bill 821 by unanimous vote on June 30, 2021. It was amended at the hearing to increase compensation and to add an urgency clause. The text of the amended bill is at the link below.

https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220SB821

The compensation clause now states,

The council shall contract for the services of the members of the Delta Independent Science Board established pursuant to Section 85280, at an hourly rate of one hundred fifty dollars (\$150). The council shall increase the hourly rate annually based on inflation and cost of living adjustments.

The urgency clause states,

SEC. 3. This act is an urgency statute necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety within the meaning of Article IV of the California Constitution and shall go into immediate effect. The facts constituting the necessity are:

Due to the extreme drought conditions the state is facing, the state needs the independent analysis of water management decisions that the Delta Independent Science Board provides to inform decisionmaking and understand the impact of management decisions.

The bill will now take effect as soon as it is signed by the governor.

We do continue to advocate for a more formal process for the consideration by the Delta Stewardship Council of the Delta Independent Science Board's budget and staffing needs, consistent with the Delta

ISB's status as an independent board. We hope that this can be done administratively. Our blog post is here:

Assembly adds urgency clause to bill to save Delta Independent Science Board

<https://cah2oresearch.com/2021/07/01/assembly-adds-urgency-clause-to-bill-to-save-delta-independent-science-board/>

If there is any way that we can improve our advocacy for restoring compensation and funding for the Delta Independent Science Board, please let us know.

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