

April 12, 2012

The Honorable Joe Simitian
Chair, Senate Committee on Environmental Quality
California State Senate
State Capitol, Room 2080
Sacramento, CA 95814



RE: SB 1063 (Gaines) – Support

Dear Chair Simitian:

On behalf of the California Water Association (CWA), the statewide trade group that represents approximately 125 water utilities regulated by the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), including Lake Alpine Water Co., the public water supplier referenced in the subject legislation, I am writing to express CWA's support for Senate Bill 1063, which, as amended, would reinstate the prior exemption for recreational activity in Bear Lake Reservoir (Amador County) until January 1, 2016.

As the source of drinking water for the local public water system and the source of varied recreational uses for the neighboring resort area, Bear Lake Reservoir has had a longstanding dual role in the local community. Fortunately, Sections 115825-115850 of the Health & Safety Code have long recognized and allowed for multiple uses of public waters in California, as long as they are consistent with public health and public safety. With respect to SB 1063, the addition of Sec. 115843.6 to the Code will ensure the necessary safeguards for the ongoing recreational uses of Bear Lake Reservoir, as well as the associated conditions and restrictions adopted by Lake Alpine Water as the entity responsible for the water treatment program for that reservoir.

For these reasons, CWA wishes to be recorded in support of SB 1063 when it comes before the Environmental Committee on April 16, 2012. Please do not hesitate to contact me, or our Legislative Advocate, Meg Catzen-Brown, at 916-442-8888, if you have any questions. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jack Hawks".

Jack Hawks

cc: The Honorable Ted Gaines
Honorable Members of the Committee on Environmental Quality
Rachel Machi Wagoner, Committee Consultant
Lance Christensen, Republican Consultant
Gareth Elliott, Office of the Governor

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