Safe Water for All

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Governor Newsom's Executive Order Calls for "Clean, Safe, and Affordable Drinking Water" for All California Communities

Community and environmental justice advocates urge Legislators to act on Safe and Affordable Drinking Water Fund in Governor's Budget, SB 200, AB 217

Sacramento, CA – After Governor Gavin Newsom issued an <u>Executive Order</u> calling on his Administration to "ensure all communities have access to clean, safe and affordable drinking water," advocates for communities living without safe water praised the governor's leadership on this crucial public health issue and called for lawmakers to pass Safe and Affordable Drinking Water Fund legislation through the Governor's budget, SB 200 (Monning) and AB 217 (E. Garcia). The Executive Order affirms California's commitment to water as a "human right," "central to California's strength and vitality."

The Safe and Affordable Drinking Water Coalition released the following statement from Phoebe Seaton, co-founder and legal director of Leadership Counsel for Justice and Accountability:

"Since his first week in office, Governor Newsom has made solving the urgent crisis of unsafe drinking water a top priority, and this Executive Order is another call to action for a Safe and Affordable Drinking Water Fund to make the human right to safe, affordable drinking water a reality. Communities living with the financial toll and the health consequences of contaminated water have been sounding the alarm for years: this statewide emergency requires a comprehensive solution. The Governor's January budget proposal, SB 200 (Monning) and AB 217 (E. Garcia) represent that solution. With Governor Newsom's leadership, 2019 must be the year California keeps the promise of safe water for all. School children, low-income families, and rural and urban communities and people of color are counting on the Legislature to do its job to protect our communities."

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