

Safe and Affordable Drinking Water Fund Coalition

For Immediate Release

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Contact: Monika Lee, 916.444.7415

Communities Impacted by Toxic Taps On The Verge of Historic Safe Water Victory; Urge Vote On Urgency Bill As Soon As Possible

With Budget Agreement & “Big 3” Commitment on Urgency Bill, California Closer Than Ever to Achieving Human Right to Safe, Affordable Drinking Water

Sacramento, CA- The Safe and Affordable Drinking Water Fund Coalition released the following statement from Phoebe Seaton, Co-Founder and Co-Executive Director of Leadership Counsel for Justice and Accountability; Jonathan Nelson, Policy Director, Community Water Center; and Jennifer Clary, Water Programs Manager, Clean Water Action upon the announcement of a budget deal by Governor Gavin Newsom today and the announcement of a related urgency bill that will deliver \$1.4 billion over 11 years for safe drinking water.

“After decades of living without safe drinking water, impacted communities are thrilled that California is close to a historic victory that will enable children to drink from home water taps and families to prepare food and baby formula without fear of illness. Once the companion urgency bill is signed into law, Governor Newsom, Speaker Rendon, and Pro Tem Atkins’ commitment to deliver ongoing, sustainable funding this year will make a life-changing difference for California communities facing high costs and serious health threats from contaminated water. We are also grateful for the leadership of Senator Bill Monning and Assemblymembers Eduardo Garcia and Richard Bloom who have been instrumental in securing the basic human right to safe drinking water for all Californians.

“One million Californians living without safe water don’t deserve to wait any longer, which is why we urge a swift vote on the urgency bill, so California can write this historic moment into the history books.”

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