

DRAFT

August 5, 2021

Honorable Henry Stern and members
Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee
State Capitol, Room 5046
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Letter of Support for S.B. 821 (Delta Independent Science Board) - sent via email to dennis.o'connor@senate.ca.gov

Dear Chair Stern and Senators:

The Delta Protection Commission (Commission) is a state agency working to ensure that the accomplishment of the coequal goals for the Delta are conducted in a manner that protects and enhances the unique cultural, recreational, natural resource, and agricultural values of the Delta as an evolving place.

The Commission appreciates your Committee's sponsorship and support of Senate Bill 821, to clarify the independent status and fix a salary for Delta Independent Science Board (DISB) members. We wish to express our strong support for this legislation, as amended in the Assembly July 5, 2021.

The Commission recognizes the value of a functioning DISB and the role it plays in evaluating the broad range of scientific programs that support adaptive management of the Delta. These nationally prominent scientists have added immense value to the review of Delta scientific research, monitoring, and assessment programs. It is important that they retain an independent status and are compensated to reflect the important role they play in the Delta scientific enterprise.

The Commission voted to approve this letter at its meeting on August 5, 2021 on a XX-XX vote.

Sincerely,

Don Nottoli
Chair

cc: Delta-region legislators (Senators Dodd, Eggman, Pan, and Glazer; Assemblymembers Frazier, Aguiar-Curry, McCarty, Cooper, Flora, Villapudua, Grayson, and Bauer-Kahan)
Angie Wei, Legislative Affairs Secretary to Governor Newsom
Members, Delta Protection Commission