



OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

Office of State Governmental Relations  
1130 K Street, Suite 340  
(916) 445-9924  
Kieran Flaherty, Associate Vice President and Director

August 17, 2017

The Honorable Ricardo Lara  
Chair, Senate Appropriations Committee  
State Capitol, Room 2206  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: AB 589 (Bigelow), as amended July 12, 2017**  
**Scheduled for hearing in the Senate Appropriations Committee on August 21, 2017**  
**Position: SUPPORT**

Dear Chair Lara:

The University of California (UC) writes to express our support for AB 589 (Bigelow), which provides a reasonable alternative for farmers, ranchers, and other landowners to comply with measuring and reporting requirements for surface water diversions that take place on their properties.

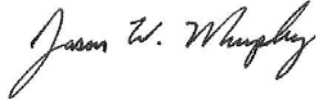
Specifically, this measure would allow property owners to enroll in an instructional course developed by the UC Cooperative Extension (UCCE) that would allow individuals to self-certify the appropriate installation of a water diversion measuring device required by existing law (SB 88 – Ch. 27, Stats of 2015). Upon completion of the course, a water diversion measuring device installed by those individuals is presumed to be accurate, functioning properly and in full compliance with State law.

The University believes that allowing landowners to comply in the manner outlined in AB 589 is reasonable and appropriate and will allow for compliance in a fashion that alleviates the need for many small diverters to hire expensive engineers. With regard to the requirements placed on UCCE to develop and administer the instructional course and consult with the State Water Board on curriculum, the University is willing to undertake these new duties were the bill to become law and anticipates that the costs to perform these activities will be fully recovered through UCCE's existing fee structures.

The Honorable Ricardo Lara  
Page 2  
August 17, 2017

Should you have any questions about the University's position on AB 589, please do not hesitate to contact me at (916) 445-9924.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jason W. Murphy".

Jason Murphy  
Legislative Director

cc: Assemblymember Frank Bigelow  
Vice Chair and Members, Senate Appropriations Committee  
President Janet Napolitano  
Executive Vice President and CFO Nathan Brostrom  
Executive Vice President and COO Rachael Nava  
Associate Vice President and Director Kieran Flaherty