



*To advance the economic, social and environmental sustainability of Northern California
by enhancing and preserving the water rights, supplies and water quality.*

**RESOLUTION NO. 22-01
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE NORTHERN CALIFORNIA WATER ASSOCIATION
HONORING THE SERVICE OF JIM NIELSEN**

Whereas, Senator Jim Nielsen (R-Red Bluff) has been a strong and thoughtful advocate for Northern California and its people, land, and our amazing natural resources; and

Whereas, Senator Nielsen was born in the San Joaquin Valley, earned a Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Business from Fresno State, and was a successful rancher and farmer before co-founding a company that utilized rice hulls and rice straw for fuel; and

Whereas, in 1978, Senator Nielsen was first elected to the state Senate and valiantly represented constituents – serving as Republican leader from 1983 to 1987 – until he was appointed to the Agricultural Labor Relations Board in 1991 and then appointed by Governor Wilson to chair the California Board of Prison Terms, where he served from 1992 to 2007; and

Whereas, in November 2008, he was elected to represent California’s Second Assembly District and then re-elected to the Senate in 2013 where he has served since. Given his extensive policy experience, was appointed to the Little Hoover Commission in 2019; and

Whereas, Senator Nielsen has been a steadfast leader in the Sacramento Valley and the entire state in protecting and strengthening water rights and supplies. He has been the leader in supporting Sites Reservoir and he was the legislative leader in Proposition 1 to advance NCWA’s language in securing water rights and area of origin supplies, as well as the \$2.7 billion for water storage funding. This effort, for the first time in 30 years, provided funding for new water storage that will increase the water available to our farms, fish and wildlife, and our homes; and

Whereas, Senator Nielsen has gathered NCWA and regional water managers and agricultural interests weekly and sometimes daily for huddles in his office, which kept people together, especially in the final days of Proposition 1, as fatigue began to take its toll on everyone; and

Whereas, Senator Nielsen has worked closely with farmers and ranchers to fight efforts by overzealous government bureaucrats to redirect water rights and to impose new taxes and fees on water suppliers and farmers in the North State; and

Whereas, Senator Nielsen has been a tireless advocate for the North State during its recovery from a series of deadly and catastrophic wildfires, including many of the deadliest and most destructive fires in state history; and

Whereas, Senator Nielsen has been a tireless champion for the Williamson Act and the importance of viable farms and ranches for the benefit of all Californians; and

Whereas in the aftermath of the Oroville Spillway failure, he created the Oroville Dam Citizens Advisory Commission, a public forum to discuss matters relating to the Oroville Dam and the continued operations of the State Water Project to ensure water along the Feather River and throughout California; and

Whereas, after his State Senate swearing-in ceremony in 2013, Senator Nielsen exhibited pride in the California Senate and the Sacramento Valley: "Taking that sacred oath again, where I'll now again have the opportunity to serve in this honorable body, I wanted to reflect on how special this honorable body is... I've had the pleasure, in my years, to represent 21 different California counties and three of the former state capitals--Vallejo, Benicia, and Sacramento--and succeeding a fellow whose home I went up to quite often in Sonoma General Mariano Vallejo, who served in this house, first elected in 1849. Those are the kind of people who have inhabited this Chamber, and what makes the Senate special."

Whereas, Senator Nielsen is looking forward to spending more time with his wife Marilyn, daughters Prima and Brandi, sons Jim, Adam, and Bryan, and grandchildren Logan, Declan and Teague; now, therefore, be it:

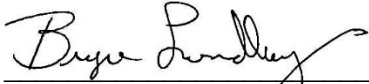
Resolved by the Board of Directors of the Northern California Water Association, that they unanimously extend their heartfelt appreciation to Senator Jim Nielsen and commend him for his lifelong dedication to public service and representing the interests of the Sacramento Valley and advocating on behalf of his constituents, while also looking for solutions that are best for the State of California.

The Board specifically appreciates Senator Nielsen's steadfast and thoughtful leadership on behalf of the Sacramento Valley and the entire state in protecting and strengthening water rights and supplies, opposing new taxes and fees on water, and efforts to build Sites Reservoir by advancing \$2.7 billion for water storage funding.

The Board most notably appreciates Senator Nielsen's deep appreciation for protecting the way of life and values in the Sacramento Valley and his efforts to preserve our water resources by bringing this special region and its people to life.

In expressing our deep admiration for Senator Nielsen, his integrity and his amazing public service, we wish him and his family all the best in his well-earned retirement from the Legislature and we look forward to his further endeavors.

March 2, 2022


Bryce Lundberg, Chair

ATTEST:


Steve Danna, Secretary/Treasurer