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**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS****SOLANO  
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March 6, 2023

The Honorable Rebecca Bauer-Kahan  
Chair, Assembly Water, Parks and Wildlife  
California State Assembly  
1020 O Street, Suite 6320  
Sacramento, CA 95814**RE: SUPPORT, AB 345 (Wilson) Habitat Restoration, Flood Control, Advance Payments**

Dear Chair Bauer-Kahan,

On behalf of the Solano County Board of Supervisors, I am writing to support Assembly Bill (AB) 345 by Assemblymember Lori D. Wilson. The bill will provide the Department of Water Resources (DWR) with discretionary authority to utilize an advanced payment option when funding local projects that restore vital habitat and/or improve flood protection. AB 345 limits any single advanced payment to no more than 25 percent of the total project cost. Considering the State's interest in these projects, DWR may also reduce or eliminate any retention that would otherwise be withheld under the funding agreement. Funds would not be advanced by DWR until they are needed by the local agency partner.

We strongly support and often partner in the delivery of flood protection and/or habitat restoration projects in our region. The inability of DWR to provide funds to local agencies like ours until after the local agency has paid project expenses is often a major obstacle to financing the development and delivery of these projects. We believe the discretion offered by AB 345 is critical to accelerating the pace of flood risk reduction and habitat restoration in the State of California. For these reasons and more, we respectfully request your support of AB 345.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "John M. Vasquez".

John M. Vasquez, Chair  
Solano County Board of Supervisors**CC:**The Honorable Bill Dodd, Senator  
The Honorable Lori D. Wilson, Assemblymember  
The Honorable Solano County Board of Supervisors  
Misty Kaltreider, Water & Natural Resources Program Manager  
Karen Lange, SYASL Partners