## Weber Basin Water Conservancy District

837 East Highway 193 • Layton, Utah 84040 • Phone (801) 771-1677 • SLC (801) 359-4494 • Fax (801) 544-0103

July 14, 2023

Scott W. Paxman, PE General Manager/CEO

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The Honorable Blake Moore U.S. House of Representatives 1131 Longworth House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

Re: Support for the Great Salt Lake Stewardship Act (H.R. 4094/S. 1955)

Dear Utah Congressional Delegation,

The Weber Basin Water Conservancy District would like to express our full support for the *Great Salt Lake Stewardship Act*. With a regional water supply responsibility, our District wholesales water to and develops additional supplies for cities, districts and companies in five Utah counties, serving over 700,000 people. This legislation provides access to additional funding resources needed to increase water conservation efforts and augment water flows into the Great Salt Lake. Sustained drought has caused the lake levels to decline to a concerning degree. Water conservation is a top priority, and this bill recognizes the importance of advancing projects that will help to replenish the Great Salt Lake.

The *Great Salt Lake Stewardship Act* will enhance access to federal funding for water conservation projects by adding a new provision to the Central Utah Project Completion Act (CUPCA- Public Law 102-575). This change gives the Secretary of Interior the flexibility to reallocate unspent budget authorities within Title II of CUPCA and to put funds towards water conservation activities. Also, the bill expands the scope of the CUPCA water conservation program to now include the Great Salt Lake basin, which will greatly benefit the lake. Finally, the CUPCA program enjoys annual funding support from Congress providing a stable source of future funding for water conservation initiatives.

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Weber Basin Water Conservancy District has been intensely involved in water conservation projects and practices for at least the past two decades, and we envision the need for even more programs into the future. The current use of our water supplies, in both the agricultural and Municipal settings, is simply not sustainable. We are encouraged by the resources this Act could bring to the Great Salt Lake Basin.

Thank you for your efforts in introducing the *Great Salt Lake Stewardship Act* and for your work in advancing it through the legislative process.

Sincerely,

Scott W. Paxman, PE General Manager/CEO

Weber Basin Water Conservancy District