



**San Francisco Bay
Restoration Authority**

Date: April 23, 2010
To: Governing Board
From: Judy Kelly
Director, San Francisco Estuary Partnership

Moira McEnespy
Deputy Program Manager, San Francisco Bay Area Program
California State Coastal Conservancy

Subject: **Support of the San Francisco Bay Improvement Act of 2010—HR 5061**

Proposed Action

Staff is requesting the Governing Board sign a letter of support for the San Francisco Bay Improvement Act of 2010—HR 5061.

Summary

On Thursday, April 15th, Representative Jackie Speier introduced federal legislation that would create a San Francisco Bay Program at US EPA Region 9, and authorize up to \$100 million annually for the next 10 years to support projects that advance implementation of the San Francisco Estuary Partnership's Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan. As of April 15th, the co-sponsors of the bill include Representatives Garamendi, Lee, Stark, Woolsey, Honda, Thompson, McNerney, Eshoo, Miller and Loftgren.

The new Program Office at EPA Region 9 headquarters would be charged with grant-making to further implement the National Estuary Program priorities for San Francisco Bay. Grant funds would go toward addressing the full array of challenges the Bay faces, including: pollution and toxic cleanup, wetlands and stream restoration, fish and wildlife preservation, watershed and land use planning, water use conservation and climate change adaptation efforts.

Support of the San Francisco Bay Improvement Act of 2010—HR 5061

April 23, 2010

2

Restoration of San Francisco Bay tidal marsh and related habitats is a top priority of the CCMP and funds from this bill could substantially increase the opportunity to achieve regional wetland restoration goals.

Attachments:

- A. San Francisco Bay Improvement Act of 2010—HR 5061
- B. HR 5061 Fact Sheet
- C. Draft Letter of Support