

News Release

Release #SB10-001

CALIFORNIA STATE BOARD OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

Media Contact:

Josh Eddy, Executive Director, Phone (916) 654-0462

STATE BOARD OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE SUPPORTS FEINSTEIN'S WATER EFFORTS

SACRAMENTO, February 22, 2010 – The California State Board of Food and Agriculture today expressed support for Senator Dianne Feinstein's current efforts to address California's ongoing drought. Al Montna, President of the California State Board of Food and Agriculture made the following statement.

“We are pleased that Senator Dianne Feinstein is engaged on this issue and we would be happy to help her in anyway possible. California farmers, ranchers and rural communities are facing significant challenges as a result of the ongoing drought - jobs are being impacted and communities are in need. Allowing drought impacted farmers flexibility within the water system to hire, plant and harvest with 30-40 percent of water allocations is a positive step forward. Addressing California's water challenge, while balancing ecosystem needs, is vital for our Central Valley communities.”

The California State Board of Food and Agriculture advises the governor and secretary of food and agriculture of findings as they impact agriculture and consumer needs. The board conducts forums that bring together local, state and federal government officials, agricultural representatives, and citizens to discuss current issues of concern to California agriculture.