

From: **Rural County Representatives of California** RCRC@public.govdelivery.com
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Your source for legislative and regulatory news impacting California's rural counties.

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Legislature Passes Managed Care Organization Tax Package – “Clawback” Addressed

This week, the Legislature approved a restructured Managed Care Organization (MCO) tax package, which was subsequently signed by Governor Brown. The MCO tax reform package will allow California to continue to draw down federal funds for Medi-Cal and avoid a potential \$1.1 billion deficit in the State Budget.

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Also In This Week's Edition:

- [Groundwater Sustainability Plan Emergency Regulations Guide Released](#)
- [DFW Mussel Regulations Become Effective April 1, 2016](#)
- [Huffman and Rohrabacher Introduce Bill to Exclude Conservation Rebates from Federal Taxes](#)
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For timely, informative updates on issues impacting California's rural counties throughout

the week, be sure to follow RCRC on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

Groundwater Sustainability Plan Emergency Regulations Guide Released

The Department of Water Resources has issued a draft Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) Emergency Regulations guide. The purpose of the guide is to provide information essential to understanding the Draft GSP Emergency Regulations.

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DFW Mussel Regulations Become Effective April 1, 2016

On February 10, 2016, the Office of Administrative Law issued a Notice of Approval of Regulatory Action for the Department of Fish and Wildlife's (DFW) proposed dreissenid (also known as Quagga) mussel regulations. These new regulations developed under the authority of Fish and Game will become effective April 1, 2016.

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Huffman and Rohrabacher Introduce Bill to Exclude Conservation Rebates from Federal Taxes

Last week, Rep. Jared Huffman (D-CA) and Rep. Dana Rohrabacher (R-CA) introduced H.R. 4615, a measure that would exempt water efficiency rebates from federal taxes. The legislation would also exclude water efficiency home improvements and stormwater management related upgrades from taxes.

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Feinstein Criticizes Administration for Not Helping with Drought

After reintroducing legislation (S 2533) to respond to California's continuing drought, Sen. Dianne Feinstein (D-CA) grilled an Obama administration official this week at a hearing on the proposed budget for the Bureau of Reclamation about the seeming reluctance to help alleviate the drought.

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Municipal Finance Caucus Launched

This week, Rep. Randy Hultgren (R-IL) and Rep. Dutch Ruppersberger (D-MD) announced the creation of the Municipal Finance Caucus to discuss the opportunities and challenges for states and local governments to fund initiatives that will strengthen their communities, and to advocate for bipartisan policies that enhance their access to the capital markets.

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Keeping Up

Announcements regarding key appointments, staffing, and leadership changes of importance to California's rural counties.

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Bulletin Board

Announcements regarding hearings, grants, and public comment notices of importance to California's rural counties.

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Regulatory Update

RCRC members are encouraged to submit comments on regulatory matters to state and federal regulatory bodies, and to provide a copy to RCRC's Government Affairs staff. Click "Read More" to access information related to the current status of regulations impacting California's rural counties.

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