

# **Aanestad Named to Conference Committee on Water**

*North State Leader to Push for New Storage Construction*

September 1, 2009

**SACRAMENTO:** [Senator Sam Aanestad](#) (*R-Grass Valley*) has been named to a special **Legislative Conference Committee on Water** that will help reform and shape California's antiquated water system. The Committee will be charged with creating a series of reforms that will lead to a reliable supply of water for all Californians. Senator Aanestad brings more than a decade of legislative experience to the committee and a unique understanding of California's water issues.

"I am hopeful that this committee will be serious solving the water issues that face both the north and south state," said Senator Aanestad. "The bottom line is this: California needs more water storage and a way that reliably provides water to the users."

Senator Aanestad served as the author for Governor Schwarzenegger's ambitious flood protection bond, and moved the **Disaster Preparedness and Flood Prevention Bond Act of 2006** through the State Legislature. Proposition 1E was later approved by state voters and has led to a wealth of new levee construction and other flood control infrastructure projects. Senator Aanestad envisions the same type of bond for water supply in California.

"We don't need another study or report on the need for additional water supplies in California," said Senator Aanestad. "Our need is well documented by water shortages in rural areas of Northern and Central California. We need a real rock and concrete construction bond that will build Sites Reservoir in the north state and build other storage projects."

The Conference Committee on Water will have 14 members in total. **The committee is scheduled to convene at 9 AM tomorrow in Room 4203 of the State Capitol.** They are also scheduled to meet Thursday and Friday. Senator Aanestad believes if action is not taken in the final two weeks of Legislative Session, hopes for true water reform may not survive.

Senator Aanestad and other Republican members of the **Legislative Conference Committee on Water** will take part in a news conference tomorrow (time & schedule permitting) to point out the need for a serious water package to solve California's growing water crisis. The news conference will take place **Wednesday, September 2<sup>nd</sup> at 9:45 AM in Room 305 of the State Capitol.**