



CITY OF MERCED

MERCED

April 28, 2025

The Honorable Anna Caballero
California State Senate
1021 O Street, Room 7620
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Senate Bill 769 (Caballero) – The Golden State Infrastructure Corporation Act – SUPPORT (As Amended April 10, 2025)

Dear Senator Caballero:

On behalf of the City of Merced, I am pleased to express our strong support for Senate Bill 769 (Caballero), which would establish the Golden State Infrastructure Corporation within the State Treasurer's Office to finance critical infrastructure projects throughout California.

Merced, like many growing communities across the state, faces significant infrastructure needs, from water and wastewater systems to transportation improvements, broadband expansion, and public safety facilities. Yet access to capital for these projects remains a major barrier. SB 769 offers an innovative, efficient, and much-needed financing mechanism to help cities like Merced address these critical needs. By allowing for the issuance of revenue bonds, providing direct financing to public agencies, and operating independently with professional expertise, the Golden State Infrastructure Corporation would be a valuable new tool to bridge the infrastructure investment gap without increasing taxpayer burdens.

Importantly, SB 769 preserves state fiscal protections by ensuring that the Corporation's obligations are separate from the state's general fund and backed solely by its own revenue streams. This structure appropriately encourages investment while protecting the financial interests of the state and its residents.

Merced is deeply invested in ensuring that our community continues to grow safely, sustainably, and equitably. Having access to additional flexible financing options will significantly assist in developing the infrastructure necessary to support our residents, businesses, and economic development efforts for years to come.

For these reasons, the City of Merced is proud to support SB 769 (Caballero) and thanks you for your leadership on this important issue. If you have any questions, please contact Sharon Gonsalves at California Public Policy Group (916) 974-9270.

Sincerely,

Mayor,
City of Merced

Cc: Members and Staff of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Appropriations