

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-R

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA, REQUESTING A STATE AUDIT OF ALLEGED SEXUAL HARASSMENT, DISCRIMINATION, BULLYING AND RETALIATION AT THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA.

WHEREAS, Metropolitan Water District (MWD) is a public corporation created for the purpose of developing, storing, and distributing water throughout the Southern California region; and

WHEREAS, MWD consists of 26 member agencies and provides drinking water to nearly 18 million people in its service area; and

WHEREAS, recent disturbing reports state that a number of current and former MWD employees have come forward exposing a pattern of sexual harassment, bullying and retaliation of women who participated in an apprentice program at MWD; and

WHEREAS, the women who participated in the apprentice program stated that their complaints of harassment were ignored by MWD officials, and some women were pressured to continue working around their abusers; one woman was transferred to work at a facility more than 100 miles from her home and family; and,

WHEREAS, on October 27, 2020 an independent investigation was initiated by MWD to review this matter, but there is concern that the investigation will be rushed and inadequate in addressing the problem; and,

WHEREAS, in order to create the institutional change necessary to ensure MWD's workplace is free from harassment, discrimination, bullying and retaliation, the State needs to conduct a comprehensive investigation into the alleged abuses, and the related human resources practices; and,

28