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October 26, 2016

The Honorable Jeb Hensarling, Chairman
House Financial Services Committee
United States House of Representatives
2228 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515

RE: H.R. 4216, Consumer Financial Choice and Capital Markets Protection Act

Dear Chairman Hensarling:

On behalf of the Trinity River Authority of Texas (TRA), I am writing to express our support for H.R. 4216, the "Consumer Financial Choice and Capital Markets Protection Act," and to ask the Financial Services Committee to act on this legislation. TRA is a political subdivision of the state. The Texas legislature created TRA in 1955, but the state does not fund TRA's activities; in fact, TRA receives no federal or state funding or tax revenue.

TRA provides essential water-related services throughout the Trinity basin, of special interest to your District; TRA has Directors from Anderson, Dallas, Henderson and Kaufman Counties. We are the largest provider of wholesale wastewater treatment services in Texas.

TRA relies on access to robust capital markets to address long-term infrastructure needs, and these needs are substantial. Money market funds facilitate access to low-cost capital by investing in short-term tax-exempt debt. This access has been put at risk by a Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) rule that requires prime and tax-exempt money market funds offered to investors who are not "natural persons" to no longer use amortized cost accounting to operate on a stable net asset value (NAV) basis.

H.R. 4216 is bipartisan legislation that would permit money market funds that invest in the short-term debt of commercial entities and state and local governments to continue to use amortized cost accounting for valuing fund assets. The effect would be to preserve stable value money market funds as a source of low-cost financing. For additional information on the impact to TRA, please contact Amy Stelter at 817-467-4343.

Thank you for your leadership and service to our great State.

Sincerely,

J. KEVIN WARD
General Manager

JKW/ams