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Office of the County Commissioners

Lora L. Thomas, Commissioner District III

February 22, 2022

House Local Government Committee
Colorado State Capitol
Denver, CO 80202

Mr. Chair and Members of the Committee:

Please accept these comments in support of SB22-015, Concerning adding a Board Member to the Urban Flood Control District.

- The Mile High Flood Control District was created in 1969 in response to the devastating 1965 flood that ravaged the Denver metro area. Today, the District serves a broad service area within the counties of Adams, Arapahoe, Boulder, Broomfield, Denver, Douglas, and Jefferson. The flood mitigation projects of the District are funded by a mill levy charge upon real property located within the District.
- The Mile High Flood Control District board has 23 members. SB22-015 would add one member from a municipality of less than or equal to 100,000 residents from Douglas County. Adams, Arapahoe, Boulder, and Jefferson counties all have such representation.
- At the time the District was created, Douglas County's entire population was only 8,400 residents; there was no need for a municipal representative. Today the county's total population is 380,000, of which 275,000 live in the District.
- Douglas County taxpayers contribute 10 percent of the total revenue to the District, which is about equal to Boulder County who has a member on the board from a municipality of less than or equal to 100,000 residents.
- SB22-015 is needed to adjust the District board membership as to reflect the population of Douglas County as it exists today as well as the revenues it contributes to the District.
- Last October, the Mile High Flood Control District Board unanimously passed a resolution of support for adding a municipal member from Douglas County. Also, the Special District Association of Colorado; Colorado Counties, Inc (pending); and the Colorado Municipal League (pending) support SB22-015.

We respectfully ask for your support on this important bill for the taxpayers and citizens of Douglas County.

Thank you for your time.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lora L. Thomas".

Lora L. Thomas, Chair
Board of Douglas County Commissioners
Member of the Board, Mile High Flood Control District

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