



# ***PRESS RELEASE***

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** – Wednesday, February 3, 2016  
Contact: Alexandra Dunn, (202) 266-4929 or [adunn@ecos.org](mailto:adunn@ecos.org)  
Environmental Council of the States (ECOS)

## **Statement on the Flint Water Crisis**

**Washington, DC** – The Environmental Council of the States (ECOS) extends its concern to the residents affected by the water contamination in Flint, Michigan. As this situation continues to dominate headlines and today’s Congressional agenda, ECOS’ Officers highlight elements of ECOS’ mission statement, which provide a guide to how ECOS members will learn from this serious situation and be prepared for and prevent similar events from occurring:

- Provide for the exchange of ideas, views and experiences among states and with others; and
- Foster cooperation and coordination in environmental management.

“State environmental agencies and their leaders have a laser focus on protection of our nation’s collective natural resources – water, air, land, and species – and on working closely with communities to achieve positive public health and environmental outcomes,” said Alexandra Dapolito Dunn, ECOS’ Executive Director and General Counsel today. ECOS commits to advancing a governance culture of timely state environmental agency communication to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), other federal agencies, and the public, when health and safety of citizens, species, or the natural environment could be at risk. Dunn added, “As a national organization dedicated to state-to-state experience sharing and capacity building, ECOS will take proactive steps in our programs, educational opportunities, and dialogues to reduce the possibility of repeating events similar to those that led to Flint’s serious situation.”

*ECOS is the national nonprofit, nonpartisan association of state and territorial environmental commissioners. For more information see [www.ecos.org](http://www.ecos.org).*