

CHAPTERED

AB 1 – Drought: local governments: fines-(Brown, Chapter 62)

Summary: This bill prohibits a city, county, or city and country from imposing a fine under any ordinance for a failure to water a lawn or having a brown lawn during a drought state of emergency declared by the Governor.

AB 91 – Budget Act of 2014-15-(Committee on Budget, Chapter 1)

Summary: Expedited General Fund, Proposition 1E bond fund, and Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund dollars for a variety of drought response and planning, as well as other water management and infrastructure projects.

AB 92 – Water: Drought-(Committee on Budget, Chapter 2)

Summary: This bill made changes to various provisions of law to address immediate actions associated with the state's current drought conditions. Specifically, this bill granted new authorities to the State Water Resources Control Board, expedited drought response through exemption of certain actions from the California Environmental Quality Act, and authorized funding for the removal of the salinity barrier installed in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta.

AB 149 – Urban water management plans-(Chavez, Chapter 49)

Summary: This bill extends the submission date for urban water suppliers to submit their 2020 Urban Water Management Plans by six months. It then allows the Department of Water Resources extra time to submit its consolidated report to the Legislature. This bill allows for the most current Census population data to be used in planning efforts.

AB 747 – Planning and land use: Sacramento-San Joaquin Valley-(Eggman, Chapter 152)

Summary: This bill clarifies that the prohibition on a city or county within the Sacramento-San Joaquin Valley from approving a discretionary permit applies only to permits that would result in new building construction, or construction that would increase allowed occupancy of an existing building. This prohibition applies to local agencies located within a flood hazard zone unless the city or county finds that the construction meets specified criteria.

SB 13 – Groundwater-(Pavley, Chapter 255)

Summary: This bill makes technical changes to the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act that was passed in 2014, in order to better manage the groundwater within California.

SB 83 – Public Resources - (Committee on Budget & Fiscal Review, Chapter 24)

Summary: This bill makes various changes in existing statutes for the purposes of conforming state law to actions in the 2015-16 Budget Act. One provision relates to the Department's activities: SB 83 makes all well completion reports available to the public, where current law prohibits the release of these reports

PASSED BY LEGISLATURE / AWAITING ACTION BY THE GOVERNOR**AB 142 – Wild and scenic rivers: Mokelumne River-(Bigelow)**

Summary: This bill would require the Secretary of the Natural Resources Agency to conduct a study analyzing portions of the Mokelumne River as possible additions to California's Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.

AB 606 – Water conservation-(Levine)

Summary: This bill would require the Department of General Services to reduce water consumption and increase water efficiency when replacing or installing landscaping or irrigation systems on state property, including the use of drought tolerant landscape and replacement of irrigation timers and spray sprinklers.

AB 617 – Groundwater-(Perea)

Summary: This bill would make various changes to the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act of 2014. Specifically, it would create a pathway for state agencies to be compelled to comply with a groundwater plan and it would allow for an extension to implementation of a groundwater sustainability plan if litigation has prevented implementation.

AB 939 – Groundwater-(Salas)

Summary: This bill would clarify the timeline for actions of groundwater agencies under specific circumstances.

AB 965 – California and Mexico border: water resources improvement-(Garcia)

Summary: This bill would change the definition of urban creek protection, restoration and enhancement under the Urban Streams Restoration Program to include projects that reduce water quality impairments. This would allow funding to be available in areas such as Calexico that have water sources that originate across the border in Mexico.

AB 1095 – Salton Sea: restoration projects-(Garcia)

Summary: This bill would require, on or before March 31, 2016, the Natural Resources Agency to submit to the Legislature a list of shovel-ready, as defined, Salton Sea restoration projects, including information regarding project costs and timelines.

AB 1390 – Groundwater: comprehensive adjudication-(Alejo)

Summary: This bill would establish a special procedure for a comprehensive adjudication, defined as an action filed in superior court to determine the rights to extract groundwater in a basin. This bill would authorize the court to determine all rights to groundwater in a basin whether based on appropriation, overlying right, or other rights.

SB 144 – Water development projects: Sacramento-San Joaquin Watersheds-(Pan)

Summary: This bill would update the parameters of the Natomas Basin flood protection project to meet new engineering requirements. This is needed in order to provide continued funding for the full scope of work that still remains and to achieve the requirement of at least a 200-year level of flood protection. This bill would describe the Natomas Basin flood protection project as further modified by a specified report adopted by Congress.

SB 208 – Integrated regional water management plans: grants: advanced payment-(Lara)

Summary: This bill would require the department, within 60 days of receiving the project information, to provide advanced payment of 50% of the award for projects that satisfy specified criteria and would require the advanced funds to be handled.

SB 226 – Sustainable Groundwater Management Act: groundwater adjudication-(Pavley)

Summary: This bill would provide for expedited groundwater basin adjudication. The bill is intended to encourage early settlement and avoid lengthy adjudication processes. This bill proposes to modernize the adjudication process and aligns its efforts with the Act so that any future adjudication is done so in furtherance of the objectives of the Act.

SB 555 – Urban retail water suppliers: water loss management-(Wolk)

Summary: This bill would require urban retail water suppliers to submit a validated water loss audit report on an annual basis. The department would be responsible for ensuring the reports are validated, and post the annual reports to the Internet Web site to make available to the public.

SB 664 – Water: urban water management planning-(Hertzberg)

Summary: This bill would require an urban water supplier to include within its plan, beginning January 1, 2020, a seismic risk assessment and mitigation plan to assess the vulnerability of each of the various facilities of a water system and mitigate those vulnerabilities. This bill would authorize an urban water supplier to comply with this requirement by submitting a copy of the most recent adopted local hazard mitigation plan or multi-hazard mitigation plan.

SB 758 – Atmospheric Rivers Research, Mitigation, and Climate Forecasting Program-(Block)

Summary: This bill would establish the Atmospheric Rivers Research and Mitigation Program in the Department to, upon appropriation of special fund monies, research the causes and effects of atmospheric rivers, and to take actions to capture water generated by atmospheric rivers to increase the water supply and reliability of water resources in the state and to operate reservoirs in a manner that improves flood protection in the state.

FAILED PASSAGE

AB 647 – Beneficial use: storing of water underground-(Eggman)

Summary: This bill would clarify that the storage of water underground, when done for the purposes of preventing seawater intrusion into an aquifer or preventing/remediating subsidence, is a beneficial use.

AB 761 – Carbon sequestration: working lands-(Levine)

Summary: This bill would establish a grant program to provide funds for compost pilot projects. The authorized funds would be used for projects that reduce greenhouse gases, improve water retention, and create more resilient agricultural lands.

AB 937 – Groundwater planning and technical assistance: disadvantaged communities-(Salas)

Summary: This bill would require the Department of Water Resources to provide technical assistance to disadvantaged communities on groundwater planning efforts.

AB 935 – Water projects-(Salas)

Summary: This bill would require the Department fund projects that are elements of the San Joaquin River Restoration Settlement Agreement.

SB 37 – Water: floods-(Nielsen)

Summary: This bill would extend the reimbursement timeline for flood projects initially implemented under the Early Implementation Project program, initiated in 2007.

SB 471 – Water, energy, and greenhouse gas emissions: planning-(Pavely)

Summary: This bill would add “water treatment” projects to the types of projects eligible for funding from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund. Additionally, the bill would require the Energy Commission to study water-related energy use in California and would require the State Water Resources Control Board to develop a grant and loan program.

SB 551 – State water policy: water and energy efficiency-(Wolk)

Summary: This bill would declare the policy of the state to have water use be as energy efficient as feasible, and all energy use to be as water efficient as feasible.

SB 554 – California Water Commission: disqualifying financial interest: removal from office-(Wolk)

Summary: This bill would have removed a member of the California Water Commission from office if a court found that the commission member knowingly participated in any decision in which they had a disqualifying financial interest.