

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 15, 2003

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 1, 2003

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2003–04 REGULAR SESSION

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 314**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Kehoe  
(Coauthors: Assembly Members Hancock and Plescia)**

February 7, 2003

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An act to add Section 111 to the Water Code, relating to water.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 314, as amended, Kehoe. Desalination.

Existing law, on or before January 1, 2004, requires the Department of Water Resources to report to the Legislature on potential opportunities for the use of seawater and brackish water desalination, and for the purposes of that report, to examine the role of the state, if any, in furthering the use of desalination in the state.

This bill would declare that it is the policy of the state that desalination projects developed *by or* for public water entities be ~~considered for~~ *given the same opportunities for state* assistance and funding ~~on an equal basis with~~ *as* other water efficiency, supply, and reliability projects, and that desalination projects be consistent with all applicable environmental protection policies in the state.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no.  
State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. Section 111 is added to the Water Code, to read:  
2 111. (a) The Legislature hereby finds and declares that the  
3 growing water needs of the state require the development of cost  
4 effective and efficient water supply technologies. Desalination  
5 technology is now feasible to help provide significant new water  
6 supplies from seawater, brackish water, and reclaimed water.  
7 Desalination technology can also provide an effective means of  
8 treating some types of contamination in water supplies.  
9 Desalination is consistent with both state water supply and  
10 efficiency policy goals, and joint state-federal environmental and  
11 water policy and principles promoted by the Cal-Fed Bay Delta  
12 Program.

13 (b) It is the policy of this state that desalination projects  
14 developed *by or* for public water ~~entities be considered for~~  
15 ~~assistance and funding on an equal basis with~~ *entities be given the*  
16 *same opportunities for state assistance and funding as other water*  
17 ~~efficiency, supply,~~ *supply* and reliability projects, and that  
18 desalination be consistent with all applicable environmental  
19 protection policies in the state.

