

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY AUGUST 12, 2004

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JUNE 21, 2004

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JUNE 8, 2004

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 16, 2004

SENATE BILL

No. 1604

Introduced by Senator Ashburn

February 20, 2004

An act to amend the ~~title~~ *heading* of Article 8.7 (commencing with Section 6047.60) of Chapter 9 of Part 1 of Division 4 of, and to amend Sections 6047.60, 6047.61, 6047.62, 6047.63, 6047.64, 6047.68, 6047.69, 6047.70, 6047.74, 6047.76, 6047.78, 6047.79, 6047.80, 6047.82, 6047.87, 6047.88, 6047.89, 6047.92, 6047.94, 6047.96, 6047.97, 6047.101, 6047.105, 6047.109, 6047.112, 6047.113, 6047.118, and 6047.124 of, and to repeal Section 6047.93 of, the Food and Agricultural Code, relating to pest control, and declaring the urgency thereof, to take effect immediately.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1604, as amended, Ashburn. Pest control: Pierce's disease.

Existing law, the Table Grape Pest and Disease Control District Law, establishes a procedure for the organization, operation, and dissolution of districts to, among other things, respond to, manage, and control the effects of the spread of the glassy-winged sharpshooter and Pierce's disease, and other pests that attack grapevines.

Existing law requires that proceedings for the formation of a district within a county shall be commenced by a petition that is signed by specified percentages of table grape growers. Existing law authorizes

the district to cause assessments to be levied on table grapes being grown in the district to pay obligations of the district incurred to accomplish the purposes of the district.

This bill would revise these provisions so that they apply to table grape growers as well as the owners of table grape acreage. This bill would clarify that these abatement districts apply to infestations of other designated pests and diseases in addition to the glassy-winged sharpshooter and Pierce’s disease. This bill would instead authorize the district to recommend an assessment to the board of supervisors to be levied on the owners of acreage of table grapes being grown in the district. This bill would make other conforming changes.

This bill would declare that it is to take effect immediately as an urgency statute.

Vote: 2/3. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no. State-mandated local program: no.

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

1 SECTION 1. The ~~title~~ heading of Article 8.7 (commencing
2 with Section 6047.60) of Chapter 9 of Part 1 of Division 4 of the
3 Food and Agricultural Code is amended to read:

4
5 Article 8.7. Table Grape Pest and Disease District
6

7 SEC. 1.5. Section 6047.60 of the Food and Agricultural Code
8 is amended to read:

9 6047.60. The Legislature hereby finds and declares the
10 following:

11 (a) California is the leading producer of table grapes in the
12 United States, accounting for 97 percent of table grapes grown in
13 this country.

14 (b) Table grapes are grown in 15 counties located throughout
15 the state.

16 (c) California grows more than 170,000 acres of table grapes
17 producing over 700,000 tons of table grapes per year, valued at
18 more than eight hundred sixty million dollars (\$860,000,000) with
19 a direct and indirect impact on the state’s economy that totals more
20 than four billion dollars (\$4,000,000,000).

21 (d) The plant killing bacterium, *Xylella fastidiosa*, and the
22 resulting plant disease known as Pierce’s disease, and its vectors,



1 present a clear and present danger to California’s nearly three
2 billion dollar (\$3,000,000,000) grape industry, as well as to many
3 other commodities and plant life.

4 (e) Pierce’s disease and its vector the glassy-winged
5 sharpshooter have spread into the southern San Joaquin Valley,
6 which, if left unabated, places grapes and other commodities
7 throughout California in immediate peril.

8 (f) In addition to the research funds and program provisions set
9 forth in Article 8 (commencing with Section 6045) of Chapter 9
10 of Part 1 of Division 4, dealing with wine grapes, the table grape
11 industry is at substantial risk for Pierce’s disease and other pests
12 and recognizes the need for additional specific control programs.

13 (g) Additional programs may include field treatments similar
14 to, or the expansion of, the successful United States Department
15 of Agriculture and California Department of Food and Agriculture
16 General Beale area pilot program in Kern County. The expansion
17 of those programs may require industry assessments from the table
18 grape industry through the creation of a pest abatement district.

19 (h) The state has an interest in protecting its agricultural
20 products from further destruction by the glassy-winged
21 sharpshooter and Pierce’s disease, and other designated pests and
22 diseases.

23 (i) As a known vector for Pierce’s disease, the glassy-winged
24 sharpshooter has been determined to carry and spread Pierce’s
25 disease to many forms of California agriculture, usually with
26 complete destruction to the infected crop. This destructive effect
27 of the disease has been determined by experts in the viticulture
28 field to be especially true with respect to infected table grapes. To
29 avoid a potentially catastrophic loss to one of California’s most
30 important industries, the Legislature declares that this article is in
31 the interest of the public health and welfare.

32 (j) This article shall not establish a precedent for, or supercede,
33 reduce, or in any way alter, government funding from any source
34 related to Pierce’s disease and other designated pests and diseases
35 in this state.

36 (k) The Legislature further declares that it is in the interest of
37 the public health and welfare that the districts authorized to be
38 created by this article not duplicate existing services already being
39 provided by the University of California, state, counties, or the
40 county agricultural commissioners to eradicate the glassy-winged



1 sharpshooter and Pierce’s disease, and other designated pests and
2 diseases.

3 SEC. 2. Section 6047.61 of the Food and Agricultural Code
4 is amended to read:

5 6047.61. This article shall be known and may be cited as the
6 Table Grape Pest and Disease District Law.

7 SEC. 2.5. Section 6047.62 of the Food and Agricultural Code
8 is amended to read:

9 6047.62. (a) It is the purpose of this article to make available
10 a procedure for the organization, operation, and dissolution of
11 districts to respond to the effects of the spread of the glassy-winged
12 sharpshooter and Pierce’s disease, and other designated pests and
13 diseases that attack table grape plants, and to collect and
14 disseminate to table grape producers in the district all relevant
15 information and scientific studies concerning the pest or pests, as
16 well as to chart and determine the extent and location of any
17 infestations.

18 (b) Division 3 (commencing with Section 56000) of Title 5 of
19 the Government Code does not apply to districts organized
20 pursuant to this article.

21 SEC. 3. Section 6047.63 of the Food and Agricultural Code
22 is amended to read:

23 6047.63. Unless the context otherwise requires, the
24 definitions in this section govern the construction of this article.

25 (a) “Board” or “board of directors” means the board of
26 directors of a district.

27 (b) “District” means a table grape pest district organized
28 pursuant to this article.

29 (c) “Owner” includes joint owner, coowner, guardian,
30 executor, administrator, or any other person that holds property in
31 a trust capacity under court appointment.

32 (d) “Pierce’s disease” is the disease of grapevines caused by
33 the bacterium *Xylella fastidiosa*.

34 (e) “Table grapes” means all table grape varieties specified in
35 the report issued pursuant to Section 55601.5. “Table grapes” also
36 means all raisin varieties specified in the report issued pursuant to
37 Section 55601.5 that are intended to be marketed in their fresh
38 form.

39 (f) “Table grape acreage” means any parcel of real property
40 with more than one acre of table grape plants.



1 (g) “Grower” or “producer” means any person who is
2 engaged within this state in the business of producing, or causing
3 to be produced, table grapes for market.

4 (h) “Other designated pests and diseases” means pests and
5 diseases designated by the district as serious pests and diseases
6 warranting district action.

7 SEC. 4. Section 6047.64 of the Food and Agricultural Code
8 is amended to read:

9 6047.64. (a) Proceedings for the formation of a district
10 within any county shall be commenced by a petition signed by the
11 owners of 15 percent of the table grape acreage.

12 (b) The petition shall be addressed to, and filed with, the board
13 of supervisors of the county.

14 SEC. 5. Section 6047.68 of the Food and Agricultural Code
15 is amended to read:

16 6047.68. (a) The petition shall be accompanied by a fee in an
17 amount established by the board of supervisors as is necessary to
18 reimburse the county for all costs incurred by it in connection with
19 the proposed organization of the district and subsequent election.
20 The board of supervisors may charge the district for actual
21 expenses incurred by the county in connection with the
22 proceedings for the formation of the district.

23 (b) Upon the establishment of the district, the district shall
24 reimburse those who provided the funds specified in subdivision
25 (a) from assessments collected pursuant to this article.

26 SEC. 6. Section 6047.69 of the Food and Agricultural Code
27 is amended to read:

28 6047.69. (a) Upon the presentation and filing of a petition,
29 the board of supervisors shall refer the petition to the county
30 agricultural commissioner for the preparation of a register of
31 owners of table grape acreage within the proposed district, and for
32 an investigation and report.

33 (b) The county agricultural commissioner shall create a register
34 of all table grape acreage owners within the proposed district and
35 specifically describe the net acreage of land devoted to the
36 growing of table grapes by each owner. The county agricultural
37 commissioner shall file with the register of table grape acreage
38 owners a report to the board of supervisors describing the present
39 condition of the glassy-winged sharpshooter and Pierce’s disease
40 infestations, or infestation of other designated pests and diseases,



1 and any proposed program that may warrant the board of
2 supervisors proceeding with the organization of the district and
3 recommendation as to the advisability of creating the district.

4 SEC. 7. Section 6047.70 of the Food and Agricultural Code
5 is amended to read:

6 6047.70. (a) The board of supervisors shall fix a time and
7 place for a hearing of the petition.

8 (b) The hearing shall not be less than 20 days, or more than 40
9 days, after the filing of the petition with the board of supervisors.

10 (c) The board of supervisors shall order the clerk of the board
11 of supervisors to give notice of the hearing that will do the
12 following:

13 (1) State the time and place for the hearing that was fixed by the
14 board of supervisors.

15 (2) State that at the hearing protests will be considered by the
16 board of supervisors.

17 (3) State that requests in writing for the exclusion of acreage
18 from, or the inclusion of acreage in, the proposed district, will be
19 heard and considered by the board of supervisors.

20 (4) State that the petition is available for inspection at the office
21 of the clerk of the board of supervisors.

22 (5) Designate the boundaries of the proposed district in
23 substantially the same way that they are described in the petition.

24 SEC. 8. Section 6047.74 of the Food and Agricultural Code
25 is amended to read:

26 6047.74. At the hearing, any owner of table grape acreage in
27 the proposed district may present to the board of supervisors a
28 request, in writing, for the exclusion of that acreage or any part of
29 that acreage from the proposed district upon a showing that the
30 acreage or part of that acreage will not be benefited by the activities
31 of the proposed district. However, if the excluded acreage is
32 planted with table grapes, the owner of the acreage shall inform the
33 district, in writing, within 30 days of planting. Factors that the
34 board of supervisors may consider in its determination for
35 exclusion, as set forth in an affidavit from the owner of the acreage,
36 shall include the following:

37 (a) That the acreage is not planted to table grapes and will not
38 be so planted in the foreseeable future, as evidenced by an affidavit
39 from the owner of the acreage so stating.



1 (b) That the table grape plants have been removed from the
2 acreage and that no living table grape plants remain on the acreage.

3 (c) That exclusion of the acreage, or any part of the acreage,
4 from the district will not present a risk of glassy-winged
5 sharpshooter infestation or infestation by other designated pests or
6 diseases because of the acreage's distance or isolation from
7 infested geographical regions.

8 SEC. 9. Section 6047.76 of the Food and Agricultural Code
9 is amended to read:

10 6047.76. (a) If the board of supervisors determines that the
11 project is feasible and in the interest of the table grape acreage
12 owners of the county, the board of supervisors shall, by order
13 entered in its minutes, declare the district is duly organized under
14 the name designated in the petition for the formation of the district.

15 (b) The order shall describe the territory included in the district
16 and, if the board of supervisors does not exclude or include acreage
17 pursuant to Section 6047.78, it is a sufficient description of the
18 territory to describe the boundaries in substantially the same way
19 as they are described in the petition.

20 (c) A copy of the order certified by the clerk of the board of
21 supervisors shall be filed with the county ~~elections official~~
22 *recorder of the county in which the district is situated.*

23 SEC. 10. Section 6047.78 of the Food and Agricultural Code
24 is amended to read:

25 6047.78. (a) In determining the boundaries of the district, the
26 board of supervisors shall exclude from the district any table grape
27 acreage that it finds will not be benefited by the proposed project,
28 pursuant to the facts in Section 6047.74, and it may include in the
29 district any acreage that it finds will be benefited if it also finds it
30 will be in the interest of the district to include this acreage. The
31 inclusion may be upon application of the owner or, without the
32 owner's application, upon giving the owner notice of the proposed
33 inclusion and an opportunity for a hearing on the inclusion.

34 (b) Notice of inclusion shall be mailed, postage prepaid, by the
35 clerk of the board of supervisors, to the address of the owner of the
36 acreage as shown by the last equalized county assessment roll, and
37 to any person that has filed with the clerk that person's name and
38 address and description of acreage in which he or she has either a
39 legal or equitable interest. The notice shall describe the acreage



1 proposed to be included, and shall state the time and place at which
2 objections to the inclusion will be heard.

3 (c) Any owner of table grape acreage outside of the proposed
4 district may present to the board of supervisors a request in writing
5 for inclusion of the acreage in the proposed district.

6 SEC. 11. Section 6047.79 of the Food and Agricultural Code
7 is amended to read:

8 6047.79. Upon the filing of the order of organization, the
9 board of supervisors shall appoint a board of directors of five
10 members to administer the affairs of the district.

11 SEC. 12. Section 6047.80 of the Food and Agricultural Code
12 is amended to read:

13 6047.80. To be a director of the district, a person shall be
14 either an owner of, or the designee of an owner of, acreage
15 included in the district that is devoted, in whole or in part, to the
16 growing of table grapes.

17 SEC. 13. Section 6047.82 of the Food and Agricultural Code
18 is amended to read:

19 6047.82. (a) From and after the filing for record of the order
20 of the board of supervisors declaring the district organized, and
21 ~~certification from the county elections official~~ of the appointment
22 and qualification of its first board of directors, the organization of
23 the district is complete. The district shall operate for a period of
24 five years from the date of its organization, and shall cease to exist
25 after five years unless the district is reauthorized by the board of
26 supervisors.

27 (b) The board of directors shall hold a public hearing six
28 months prior to termination of its initial organization or last
29 reauthorization to determine whether the conditions of the
30 glassy-winged sharpshooter or Pierce's disease or other
31 designated pests and diseases warrant the reauthorization of the
32 district for an additional five years.

33 (c) The notice of hearing shall state the name of the district and
34 that consideration is being given to reauthorizing the district for an
35 additional five years, the boundaries of the district, and the time
36 and place for the hearing. Notice of the hearing shall be given as
37 provided in Sections 6047.71 and 6047.72. The board of directors
38 shall submit the record of the hearing and its recommendation to
39 the board of supervisors within 90 days of the hearing. The board
40 of supervisors shall approve or reject the recommendation. If it



1 rejects the recommendation, the board of supervisors shall return
2 the report accompanied by its reasons for the rejection to the board
3 of directors within 30 days of receipt. The board of directors may
4 thereafter address the reasons for rejection by the board of
5 supervisors and submit an amended report and new
6 recommendations for reauthorization for approval or rejection by
7 the board of supervisors, unless the district has ceased to exist
8 pursuant to subdivision (a).

9 (d) If the board of supervisors approves the continuation of the
10 district, the board of supervisors shall, by an order entered in its
11 minutes, declare the district duly extended.

12 SEC. 14. Section 6047.87 of the Food and Agricultural Code
13 is amended to read:

14 6047.87. (a) The district may do all of the following:

15 (1) Sue and be sued in all actions and proceedings in all courts
16 and tribunals of competent jurisdiction.

17 (2) Adopt a seal and alter it at pleasure.

18 (3) Accept contributions, and by grant, purchase, gift, devise,
19 lease, or otherwise, and hold, use and enjoy, and lease, or otherwise
20 dispose of, real and personal property of every kind and
21 description within or without the district necessary to the full and
22 convenient exercise of its powers.

23 (4) Recommend an assessment to the board of supervisors to be
24 levied on the owners of acreage of table grapes being grown in the
25 district to pay obligations of the district incurred to accomplish the
26 purposes of the district as provided in this article, which may
27 involve funding all or a portion of a Pierce's disease or
28 glassy-winged sharpshooter program, or program involving other
29 designated pests and diseases.

30 (5) Make contracts, and employ, except as otherwise provided
31 in this article, all persons, firms, and corporations necessary to
32 carry out the purposes and the powers of the district, and at any
33 salary, wage, or other compensation as the board of directors shall
34 determine.

35 (6) Respond to the effects of, the spread of glassy-winged
36 sharpshooter and Pierce's disease, and other designated pests and
37 diseases, and collect and disseminate to table grape growers and
38 the owners of table grapes acreage in the district relevant
39 information and scientific studies concerning these pests or



1 diseases, as well as to chart and determine the extent and location
2 of any infestations.

3 (7) Take all actions necessary to control, eradicate, remove, or
4 prevent the spread of the glassy-winged sharpshooter or Pierce’s
5 disease, or other designated pests and diseases injurious to table
6 grapes.

7 (8) With reasonable advance notice in writing to the landowner,
8 as determined by the district, enter into or upon any land included
9 within the boundaries of the district for the purpose of inspecting
10 the grape plants and any other host plants and fruit growing on
11 these lands.

12 (9) Eradicate, eliminate, remove, or destroy any table grape
13 plants having evidence of Pierce’s disease or other designated
14 pests and diseases.

15 (10) Coordinate with the county agricultural commissioner as
16 to his or her taking appropriate actions to have any table grape
17 plants growing within the district infested with Pierce’s disease or
18 other designated pests and diseases adjudged a public nuisance,
19 and decreed that the nuisance be abated.

20 (11) Coordinate district activities with other table grape pest
21 and disease districts established pursuant to this article and Section
22 6047.3.

23 (12) Perform any and all acts, either within or outside the
24 district, necessary or proper to fully and completely carry out the
25 purposes for which the district is organized.

26 (b) The district’s administrative costs shall be limited to 5
27 percent of the annual assessment revenue.

28 SEC. 15. Section 6047.88 of the Food and Agricultural Code
29 is amended to read:

30 6047.88. Every district formed pursuant to this article has all
31 of the powers prescribed by Section 6047.87 and other provisions
32 of this article, regardless of any language in the petition for
33 formation for any district or in any of the proceedings leading to
34 the formation that would otherwise limit the power of the district.

35 SEC. 16. Section 6047.89 of the Food and Agricultural Code
36 is amended to read:

37 6047.89. The county agricultural commissioner of the county
38 in which the district is located shall, upon request of the board,
39 assist the district to the extent possible in all activities undertaken



1 by the district for the control of glassy-winged sharpshooter and
2 Pierce’s disease or other designated pests and diseases.

3 SEC. 16.5. Section 6047.92 of the Food and Agricultural
4 Code is amended to read:

5 6047.92. For each fiscal year subsequent to the first year of
6 operation of the district, the board shall adopt the final budget in
7 the same manner that the budget for the first fiscal year was
8 adopted.

9 SEC. 17. Section 6047.93 of the Food and Agricultural Code
10 is repealed.

11 SEC. 18. Section 6047.94 of the Food and Agricultural Code
12 is amended to read:

13 6047.94. The district shall identify any parcel of real property
14 with more than one acre of table grape plants that shall be subject
15 to assessments.

16 SEC. 19. Section 6047.96 of the Food and Agricultural Code
17 is amended to read:

18 6047.96. (a) After the district has been formed, an owner of
19 table grape acreage in the district may present to the board a
20 request in writing for the exclusion of that acreage or any part of
21 the acreage from the district upon a showing that the acreage or
22 part of the acreage will not be benefited by the activities of the
23 district. Factors that the board may consider in its determination
24 for exclusion, as set forth in an affidavit from the owner of the
25 acreage, shall include those specified in Section 6047.74.

26 (b) After receipt of the request, the board shall cause an
27 investigation of the parcel of acreage to be made and, if the board
28 determines that the acreage or part of the acreage will not be
29 benefited by the activities of the district and that exclusion of the
30 acreage will not present a pest risk to the district, the board shall
31 exclude the table grape acreage from the district and immediately
32 certify this fact to the county assessor and the county auditor or tax
33 collector.

34 (c) Any owner of table grape acreage outside of, or otherwise
35 not included in, the district may present to the board a request in
36 writing for inclusion of the acreage in the district.

37 SEC. 20. Section 6047.97 of the Food and Agricultural Code
38 is amended to read:

39 6047.97. (a) The board shall, on or before the first Monday
40 in April of each year, or as soon thereafter as possible, file with the



1 board of supervisors a budget that sets forth all estimated
2 expenditures of the district for the fiscal year commencing on the
3 first day of July. A copy of the budget shall also, at the same time,
4 be filed with the auditor of the county.

5 (b) The board of supervisors may, by ordinance or by
6 resolution, adopted after notice and a hearing, determine and levy
7 an assessment for table grape pest and disease control activities or
8 other activities specified in subdivision (a) of Section 6047.87
9 related to designated pests and diseases for any of the following
10 purposes:

11 (1) Responding to, managing, and controlling the effects of the
12 spread of glassy-winged sharpshooter and other designated pests
13 and diseases that attack table grape plants.

14 (2) Collecting and disseminating to table grape growers in the
15 district relevant information and scientific studies concerning the
16 pest or pests.

17 (3) Charting and determining the extent and location of any
18 Pierce's disease infestations and infestations of other designated
19 pests and diseases.

20 (4) Reimbursing the county or counties in which the district is
21 located for expenses incurred in connection with providing
22 services under this article that are not otherwise reimbursed.

23 (c) (1) The annual assessment shall not exceed fifteen dollars
24 (\$15) per planted acre.

25 (2) The maximum annual assessment shall be established in
26 accordance with the voting requirements of ~~Article XIII (C) and~~
27 ~~XIII (D)~~ *Articles XIII C and XIII D* of the California Constitution,
28 as incorporated by Proposition 218 of 1996, as provided for in
29 Section 6047.100.

30 (3) The board shall annually establish the assessment which
31 shall not exceed the maximum annual assessment specified in
32 paragraph (1), except as otherwise specified in this section.

33 (d) An annual assessment greater than the amount provided for
34 in this section may not be charged unless a greater assessment is
35 approved by eligible owners in accordance with the voting
36 requirements of ~~Article XIII (C) and XIII (D)~~ *Articles XIII C and*
37 *XIII D* of the California Constitution, as incorporated by
38 Proposition 218 of 1996, as provided for in Section 6047.100.



1 (e) The board of supervisors shall cause to be prepared and filed
2 with the clerk of the board of supervisors a written report that
3 contains all of the following information:

4 (1) A description of each parcel of property proposed to be
5 subject to the assessment.

6 (2) The amount of the assessment of each parcel for the initial
7 fiscal year.

8 (3) The maximum amount of the assessment that may be levied
9 for each parcel during any fiscal year.

10 (4) The duration of the assessment.

11 (5) The basis of the assessment.

12 (6) The schedule of the assessment.

13 (7) A description specifying the requirements for written and
14 oral protests, and the protest threshold necessary for requiring
15 abandonment of the proposed assessment pursuant to subdivision
16 (f).

17 (f) Unless otherwise excluded, the assessment shall be levied
18 on each parcel within the boundaries of the district, zone, or area
19 of benefit.

20 (g) (1) The board of supervisors shall comply with the notice,
21 protest, and hearing procedures in Section 53753 of the
22 Government Code.

23 (2) In addition, the mailed notice shall include the name of the
24 district, the return address of the sender, the amount of the
25 assessment for the initial fiscal year, the maximum amount of the
26 assessment that may be levied during any fiscal year and the name
27 and telephone number of the person designated by the board of
28 supervisors to answer inquiries regarding the protest proceedings.

29 SEC. 21. Section 6047.101 of the Food and Agricultural Code
30 is amended to read:

31 6047.101. The revenue from the assessments imposed
32 pursuant to this article by the district are trust funds and shall be
33 encumbered only for the purposes for which the district is formed
34 and for the benefit of the acreage assessed. The district shall
35 expend the minimum amount necessary for overhead and other
36 administrative costs. No district funds shall be donated, loaned, or
37 transferred to any other local agency or to the state for any purpose,
38 except for the implementation of the duties of the district, set forth
39 under this article, as determined to be necessary by the district
40 board.



1 SEC. 22. Section 6047.105 of the Food and Agricultural Code
2 is amended to read:

3 6047.105. Acreage devoted exclusively to the growing of
4 table grapes within a tract of land outside the district, but in the
5 county in which the district is located, may be annexed to the
6 district in the same manner provided in this article for the
7 formation of the district.

8 SEC. 23. Section 6047.109 of the Food and Agricultural Code
9 is amended to read:

10 6047.109. If the board of supervisors determines that
11 consolidation is feasible and in the best interests of the table grape
12 acreage owners of the respective districts, it shall, by resolution
13 duly adopted, declare the districts consolidated into one district,
14 giving the consolidated district a name that includes the term
15 “consolidated.” Certified copies of the resolution shall be filed
16 with the Secretary of State and with the county recorder of each
17 county in which is located any part of the consolidated district.
18 Upon the filing, the districts are consolidated into a single
19 consolidated district with all the rights, privileges, and powers of
20 a district. The consolidated district shall succeed to all the funds
21 and other property, and is subject to all the indebtedness, bonded
22 and otherwise, of the districts consolidated. Each district that is
23 included in the consolidated district shall continue in existence for
24 the purpose of representation on the board of the consolidated
25 district, and for the purpose of levying, assessing, and collecting
26 assessments for district purposes. The board of the consolidated
27 district is, however, the board of each district that is included in the
28 consolidated district.

29 SEC. 24. Section 6047.112 of the Food and Agricultural Code
30 is amended to read:

31 6047.112. Any district that has been included in a
32 consolidated district may withdraw from the consolidated district
33 and be reconstituted as a separate district by filing with the board
34 of directors of the consolidated district a petition for withdrawal
35 that is signed by the owners of not less than a majority, by area, of
36 table grape acreage in the district. The board of directors of the
37 consolidated district shall send the original petition to the board of
38 supervisors of the county in which the withdrawing district is
39 located, and a copy of the petition to the board of supervisors of
40 each of the other counties in which is located any part of the



1 consolidated district. Upon receipt of a petition for withdrawal, the
2 board of supervisors of the county in which the withdrawing
3 district is located shall fix a time and place for hearing the petition.
4 Notice shall be given and the hearing conducted in the same
5 manner and with the same effect as prescribed for the formation
6 of a district pursuant to Sections 6047.70, 6047.71, 6047.72,
7 6047.73, and 6047.74. Upon withdrawal of a district, all moneys
8 collected from the district for the use of the consolidated district,
9 and all property purchased with these moneys, shall remain the
10 property of the consolidated district.

11 SEC. 25. Section 6047.113 of the Food and Agricultural Code
12 is amended to read:

13 6047.113. Upon the filing of a petition with the board of
14 supervisors that is signed by either (1) 50 percent or more of the
15 table grape acreage owners who own 65 percent or more of the
16 affected acreage or by (2) 65 percent or more of the table grape
17 acreage owners who own 50 percent or more of the affected
18 acreage requesting the dissolution of the district, the board of
19 supervisors shall set a time and place for hearing on the petition,
20 which shall not be less than 20 days, or more than 40 days, after
21 the filing of the petition.

22 SEC. 26. Section 6047.118 of the Food and Agricultural Code
23 is amended to read:

24 6047.118. If, at the hearing, a majority of the board of
25 supervisors does not find a compelling reason to override the
26 owners' petition to dissolve the district, the board of supervisors
27 shall by resolution dissolve the district.

28 SEC. 27. Section 6047.124 of the Food and Agricultural Code
29 is amended to read:

30 6047.124. Owners of wine grapes and raisin grapes and any
31 other agricultural commodities may petition to become subject to
32 any district established pursuant to this article. The petition shall
33 adhere to all the requirements of this article and shall require the
34 approval of the board of directors of the affected district. All
35 provisions of this article are hereby incorporated in this section and
36 are applicable to owners who become subject to a district
37 established pursuant to this article as though set forth in full in this
38 section unless a provision in this article expressly states that it is
39 not applicable to this section.



1 SEC. 28. This act is an urgency statute necessary for the
2 immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety
3 within the meaning of Article IV of the Constitution and shall go
4 into immediate effect. The facts constituting the necessity are:
5 The spread of the glassy-winged sharpshooter and Pierce's
6 disease, and other designated pests and diseases, threatens the
7 economic viability of the table grape industry. Because the
8 immediate establishment of a pest control district is necessary to
9 avoid severe economic loss, it is necessary for this act to take effect
10 immediately.

