

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 2180

Introduced by Assembly Member Alejo

February 23, 2012

An act to amend Section 116270 of the Health and Safety Code, relating to drinking water.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2180, as introduced, Alejo. California Safe Drinking Water Act. The Calderon-Sher Safe Drinking Water Act of 1996 establishes a drinking water regulatory program within the State Department of Public Health in order to provide for the orderly and efficient delivery of safe drinking water within the state and to establish primary drinking water standards that are at least as stringent as those established under the federal Safe Drinking Water Act.

This bill would make technical, nonsubstantive changes to those provisions.

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 116270 of the Health and Safety Code
- 2 is amended to read:
- 3 116270. The Legislature finds and declares all of the following:
- 4 (a) Every citizen of California has the right to pure and safe
- 5 drinking water.
- 6 (b) Feasible and affordable technologies are available and shall
- 7 be used to remove toxic contaminants from public water supplies.

- 1 (c) According to the State Department of *Public Health*
2 ~~Services~~, over 95 percent of all large public water systems in
3 California are in compliance with health-based action levels
4 established by the department for various contaminants.
- 5 (d) It is the policy of the state to reduce to the lowest level
6 feasible all concentrations of toxic chemicals that when present in
7 drinking water may cause cancer, birth defects, and other chronic
8 diseases.
- 9 (e) This chapter is intended to ensure that the water delivered
10 by public water systems of this state shall at all times be pure,
11 wholesome, and potable. This chapter provides the means to
12 accomplish this objective.
- 13 (f) It is the intent of the Legislature to improve laws governing
14 drinking water quality, to improve upon the minimum requirements
15 of the federal Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1996, to
16 establish primary drinking water standards that are at least as
17 stringent as those established under the federal Safe Drinking
18 Water Act, and to establish a program under this chapter that is
19 more protective of public health than the minimum federal
20 requirements.
- 21 (g) It is the further intent of the Legislature to establish a
22 drinking water regulatory program within the State Department
23 of *Public Health*~~Services~~ in order to provide for the orderly and
24 efficient delivery of safe drinking water within the state and to
25 give the establishment of drinking water standards and public
26 health goals greater emphasis and visibility within the~~state~~
27 department.