

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 1707**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Wilk**

February 13, 2014

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An act to amend Section 13201 of the Water Code, relating to water quality.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1707, as introduced, Wilk. Water quality: organization and membership of regional boards.

Existing law requires the State Water Resources Control Board and the 9 California regional water quality control boards to prescribe waste discharge requirements in accordance with the federal national pollutant discharge elimination system (NPDES) permit program established by the federal Clean Water Act and the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act (state act). The state act requires regional boards to consist of 7 members appointed by the Governor, 6 of them on the basis of demonstrated interest or proven ability in the field of water quality and one as a public member not specifically associated with any enumerated qualification.

This bill would make a nonsubstantive change to these 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 13201 of the Water Code is amended to  
2 read:

1 13201. (a) There is a regional board for each of the regions  
2 described in Section 13200. Each board shall consist of seven  
3 members appointed by the Governor, each of whom shall represent,  
4 and act on behalf of, all the people and shall reside or have a  
5 principal place of business within the region.  
6 (b) Except as specified in subdivision (c), each member shall  
7 be appointed on the basis of his or her demonstrated interest or  
8 proven ability in the field of water quality, including water  
9 pollution control, water resource management, water use, or water  
10 protection. The Governor shall consider appointments from the  
11 public and nonpublic sectors. In regard to appointments from the  
12 nonpublic sector, the Governor shall consider including members  
13 from key economic sectors in a given region, such as agriculture,  
14 industry, commercial activities, forestry, and fisheries.  
15 (c) At least one member shall be appointed as a public member  
16 who is not required to meet the criteria established pursuant to  
17 subdivision (b).  
18 (d) All persons appointed to a regional board shall be subject  
19 to Senate confirmation, but shall not be required to appear before  
20 any committee of the Senate for purposes of such confirmation  
21 unless specifically requested to appear by the Senate Committee  
22 on Rules.  
23 (e) Insofar as practicable, appointments shall be made in such  
24 manner as to result in representation on the board from all parts  
25 of the region.  
26 (f) Insofar as practicable, appointments shall be made in a  
27 manner as to result in representation on the board from diverse  
28 experiential backgrounds.  
29 (g) Each member shall be appointed on the basis of his or her  
30 ability to attend substantially all meetings of the board and to  
31 actively discharge all duties and responsibilities of a member of  
32 the board.  
33 (h) The reduction in the number of members of each regional  
34 board required by the act that added this subdivision shall be  
35 achieved according to the ordinary expiration of the terms of  
36 incumbents and other vacancies. Notwithstanding Section 13202  
37 the Governor shall not fill a vacancy on ~~any~~ a regional board until  
38 the number of members serving on that regional board falls below  
39 seven members. When the numbers of members serving on the

- 1 regional board falls below seven members, the Governor shall
- 2 appoint or reappoint individuals pursuant to this section.

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