

Assembly Bill No. 2100

CHAPTER 164

An act to amend Section 4735 of the Civil Code, relating to drought relief, and declaring the urgency thereof, to take effect immediately.

[Approved by Governor July 21, 2014. Filed with
Secretary of State July 21, 2014.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2100, Campos. Common interest developments: yard maintenance: fines: drought.

The Davis-Stirling Common Interest Development Act provides for the creation and regulation of common interest developments and requires that a development be managed by an association. That act provides that a provision of the governing documents of a development is void and unenforceable if it prohibits, or includes conditions that have the effect of prohibiting, the use of low water-using plants as a group, or if it has the effect of prohibiting or restricting compliance with a local water-efficient landscape ordinance or water conservation measure, as specified.

This bill would prohibit an association from imposing a fine or assessment against a member of a separate interest for reducing or eliminating watering of vegetation or lawns during any period for which the Governor has declared a state of emergency, or a local government has declared a local emergency, due to drought.

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

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

SECTION 1. Section 4735 of the Civil Code is amended to read:

4735. (a) Notwithstanding any other law, a provision of the governing documents shall be void and unenforceable if it does any of the following:

(1) Prohibits, or includes conditions that have the effect of prohibiting, the use of low water-using plants as a group.

(2) Has the effect of prohibiting or restricting compliance with either of the following:

(A) A water-efficient landscape ordinance adopted or in effect pursuant to subdivision (c) of Section 65595 of the Government Code.

(B) Any regulation or restriction on the use of water adopted pursuant to Section 353 or 375 of the Water Code.

(b) This section shall not prohibit an association from applying landscaping rules established in the governing documents, to the extent the rules fully conform with the requirements of subdivision (a).

(c) Notwithstanding any other provision of this part, an association shall not impose a fine or assessment against a member of a separate interest for reducing or eliminating the watering of vegetation or lawns during any period for which either of the following have occurred:

(1) The Governor has declared a state of emergency due to drought pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 8558 of the Government Code.

(2) A local government has declared a local emergency due to drought pursuant to subdivision (c) of Section 8558 of the Government Code.

SEC. 2. This act is an urgency statute necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety within the meaning of Article IV of the Constitution and shall go into immediate effect. The facts constituting the necessity are:

In order to conserve water during California’s historic drought by prohibiting an association from penalizing members who conserve water by watering their lawns less often, it is necessary that this bill take immediate effect.