

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 478

Introduced by Assembly Member Harper

February 23, 2015

An act to amend Section 12947 of the Water Code, relating to water resources.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 478, as introduced, Harper. Desalination.

Existing law, the Cobey-Porter Saline Water Conversion Law, states the policy of this state that desalination projects developed by or for public water entities be given the same opportunities for state assistance and funding as other water supply and reliability projects, and that desalination be consistent with all applicable environmental protection policies in the state. The law provides that it is the intention of the Legislature that the Department of Water Resources shall undertake to find economic and efficient methods of desalting saline water so that desalted water may be made available to help meet the growing water requirements of the state.

This bill would make a nonsubstantive change in 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 12947 of the Water Code is amended to
2 read:
3 12947. (a) The Legislature finds and declares that the growing
4 water needs of the state require the development of cost effective

1 and efficient water supply technologies. Desalination technology
2 is now feasible to help provide significant new water supplies from
3 seawater, brackish water, and reclaimed water. Desalination
4 technology can also provide an effective means of treating some
5 types of contamination in water supplies. Desalination is consistent
6 with both state water supply and efficiency policy goals, and joint
7 state-federal environmental and water policy and principles
8 promoted by the Cal-Fed Bay Delta Program.

9 (b) It is the policy of this state that desalination projects
10 developed by or for public water entities be given the same
11 opportunities for state assistance and funding as other water supply
12 and reliability projects, and that desalination be consistent with all
13 applicable environmental protection policies in the state.

14 (c) It is the ~~intention~~ *intent* of the Legislature that the department
15 shall undertake to find economic and efficient methods of desalting
16 saline water so that desalted water may be made available to help
17 meet the growing water requirements of the state.