

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 1244**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Gray**

February 27, 2015

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An act to add Section 1229.2 to the Water Code, relating to water.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1244, as introduced, Gray. Water rights: small irrigation use.

Existing law authorizes any person to obtain a right to appropriate water for a small irrigation use upon registering the use with the State Water Resources Control Board and thereafter applying the water to reasonable and beneficial use with due diligence. Existing law provides that the board is not required to adopt general conditions applicable to appropriations for small irrigation use until the board determines that funds are available for that purpose. Existing law provides that the authority to register for small irrigation use is effective only to the extent that the board establishes the general conditions for the applicable category of small irrigation use. Existing law requires the board, prior to adopting other general conditions for small irrigation use, and no later than June 30, 2012, to adopt general conditions for small irrigation use for facilities used for frost protection in a prescribed area, unless the board determines that sufficient funds are not available for that purpose.

This bill would require the board to adopt general conditions, in consultation with the Department of Food and Agriculture, the University of California Cooperative Extension, and others, including, but not limited to the Department of Fish and Wildlife, for small irrigation use, unless the board determines that sufficient funds are not available for that purpose.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.  
State-mandated local program: no.

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

1 SECTION 1. Section 1229.2 is added to the Water Code, to  
2 read:  
3 1229.2. Notwithstanding Section 1229, the board shall adopt  
4 general conditions, in consultation with the Department of Food  
5 and Agriculture, the University of California Cooperative  
6 Extension, and others, including, but not limited to, the Department  
7 of Fish and Wildlife, for small irrigation use not described in  
8 subdivision (d) of Section 1229, unless the board determines that  
9 sufficient funds are not available for that purpose.

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