

**Introduced by Senator Pavley**February 19, 2016

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An act to add Chapter 4 (commencing with Section 42200) to Part 3 of Division 30 of the Public Resources Code, relating to the environment.

## LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1294, as introduced, Pavley. The California Community Climate, Drought, and Jobs Resiliency Act.

Existing law establishes the California Conservation Corps in the Natural Resources Agency as a service organization providing employment and training for young men and women. Existing law authorizes the Director of the California Conservation Corps, implementing the corps program, to recruit and employ corpsmembers and to adopt criteria for employment in the program.

This bill would require the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery to award grants to local conservation corps certified by the California Conservation Corps for projects that improve the climate and drought resiliency of urban canopies, community landscaping, and urban greening efforts through the use of various water conservation methods, including the application of compost and mulch. The project would require the department to consider certain factors in selecting a project for a grant, and would require the department to give priority to projects that would aid urban canopies at the greatest risk from drought. The bill would require a project that receives a grant to leverage state and local funds. The bill would authorize the department, in coordination with local water agencies, to develop a pilot program to study the use of compost in landscaping to assist local water agencies in increasing groundwater supply and reducing evaporation.

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. Chapter 4 (commencing with Section 42200) is  
2 added to Part 3 of Division 30 of the Public Resources Code, to  
3 read:

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5 CHAPTER 4. THE CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY CLIMATE,  
6 DROUGHT, AND JOBS RESILIENCY ACT

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8 42200. (a) The department shall award grants to local  
9 conservation corps certified by the California Conservation Corps  
10 for projects that improve the climate and drought resiliency of  
11 urban canopies, community landscaping, and urban greening efforts  
12 through the use of various water conservation methods, including  
13 the application of compost and mulch.

14 (b) The department, in selecting a project for a grant pursuant  
15 to subdivision (a), shall consider the extent to which the project  
16 would employ at-risk youth, save existing climate-beneficial green  
17 spaces, save water, beautify low-income communities, use compost  
18 and mulch, increase onsite stormwater infiltration and groundwater  
19 recharge, and build healthy, biologically active soil able to  
20 sequester carbon and support healthy plants.

21 (c) Projects eligible for grants pursuant to subdivision (a)  
22 include, but are not limited to, the following:

23 (1) Projects that use local water sources as the water supply for  
24 urban canopies.

25 (2) Landscaping projects that benefit the climate and use water  
26 sustainably.

27 (3) Projects that develop, transport, and apply compost and  
28 mulch for purposes of improving tree and plant health, increasing  
29 groundwater supply, and reducing evaporation.

30 (d) A project that receives a grant pursuant to subdivision (a)  
31 shall leverage state and local funds.

32 (e) In awarding grants pursuant to subdivision (a), the  
33 department shall give priority to projects that would aid urban  
34 canopies at the greatest risk from drought.

1 42201. The department, in coordination with local water  
2 agencies, may develop a pilot program to study the use of compost  
3 in landscaping to assist local water agencies in increasing  
4 groundwater supply and reducing evaporation.

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